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PM denies writing off peace process

By LIAT COLLINS
and MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu last night vehemently denied writing off the peace process in a speech to foreign diplomats in Jerusalem on Friday.

"There is nothing new in what I said," the prime minister told *The Jerusalem Post* last night. "I said many times the Oslo process was in dire straits in its first two years, because of repeated blows of terrorism, emanating from Palestinian areas."

But opposition leaders yesterday accused Netanyahu of destroying the peace process and endangering the country by his remarks Friday to the diplomatic corps, in which he said "peace col-

lapsed two years ago" during a wave of suicide bombings.

"We had no peace. We had a collapse of peace, maybe not in the way this was perceived in various capitals around the world, but the way it was in practice here," Netanyahu told some 100 assembled diplomats.

He criticized the Palestinian Authority for not fighting terror as part of its commitment under the Oslo Accords.

"If we are to proceed, the deal must be kept," Netanyahu added.

Last night, Netanyahu insisted his government is committed to "pursuing and achieving real peace, a peace based on security. Real peace is based precisely on the policy we have introduced - reciprocity and security - and we intend to

achieve it."

He noted that the PA is aware that, under his government, if the PA permits terror attacks from its areas, "they will not get additional territories."

The prime minister added he had been elected "to put the peace process back on track and this is what we have been doing."

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak, who is in New York, accused Netanyahu of strangling the peace process and endangering Israel.

Barak warned Netanyahu that Israel's security is more important than the security of the coalition "and the responsibility for the explosion which might go off rests on this government and its leader."

Barak said only physical separation

from the Palestinians according to the Oslo and Hebron Agreements, while preserving the "red lines," will lead to security and peace.

Former prime minister Shimon Peres said yesterday that "it's time Netanyahu stopped blaming his predecessors, who gave hope for peace and made peace, and began doing something to bring about peace."

"For the past two years the peace process has been collapsing under this government. We had economic conventions in the Middle East - they were stopped. We had a conference to fight against terrorism - it was not resumed. Arab states which began forging ties with us - stopped."

The government sent Sheikh Yassin

to the Gaza Strip, where he is amassing funds and means to renew terrorism. We've entered into a fight with the United States, the economy is going downhill. Where is this government heading?" Peres asked.

Meretz Party leader Yossi Sarid said Netanyahu "bought his position by lying."

If the Oslo process is dead, Sarid said, "it died in the past year and Netanyahu is its gravedigger. He killed the peace process, buried it, and now he's complaining that he's an orphan."

Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo, who is running for prime minister, said Netanyahu must draw conclusions from his failure to keep his commitment to bring peace and resign.

"Instead of talking about the collapse of peace, Netanyahu should keep his promise to withdraw 13% and continue the peace process," Milo said.

Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny told reporters at the meeting Friday that the stalemate in the process, which he blamed on Israel, is "very, very, very dangerous."

In his speech, Netanyahu also said the Palestinian economy has improved as a result of his government's liberal policies, noting that no blanket security closure of the territories had been imposed this year. He said that if the Palestinians have a good economy it will help the peace process.

See PM, Page 5

Capital celebrates

By ELI WOHLGELERWITZ
and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Celebrations marking the 31st year of Jerusalem's unification got under way last night, with dancing and singing centered in and around the capital's Old City that lasted well into the night.

At Yeshivat Mercaz Harav Kook, students danced in circles five deep in the old study hall, awaiting the arrival of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Outside, cotton candy was being sold to the festive crowd waiting to get in.

In the Old City, hundreds of youths danced with the Israeli flag at the Western Wall Plaza, while fireworks were set off over Mount Zion.

On the Mount of Olives, the main celebration was set to begin at midnight. Buses of revelers came to the Beit Orot Yeshiva, where Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert and MKs were expected to arrive during the festivities.

Hundreds of extra policemen and soldiers have been deployed around the capital for today's celebration, to maintain security and direct traffic.

"The police will act with force against anyone attempting to disrupt the day of celebration," said police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby.

Palestinian leaders said the Israeli celebrations would not deter them from establishing an independent state with east Jerusalem as its capital.

Sal Hussein, the Palestinian authority official of failing to take enough measures to avoid provocations and violence.

He warned that if any Jewish extremists approached Al-Aksa Mosque it would be considered a direct aggression on the Muslims' feelings.

The Knesset will hold a ceremony this morning to mark the unification and the annual memorial ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. on Mount Herzl for soldiers who fell in the Six Day War.

Netanyahu, Knesset Speaker Ezer Weizman, Defense Minister Ehud Barak, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Police Inspector-General Eyal Wilk, and Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg will participate.

The official state ceremony will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Mount Zion, site of a fierce 1967 battle in which 19 IDF soldiers were killed.

President Ezer Weizman, Netanyahu, Tichon, Mordechai, Barak, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Police Inspector-General Eyal Wilk, and Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg will participate.

See CAPITAL, Page 5



Members of the Alliance Party celebrate the referendum results with champagne in Belfast last night. In the Northern Ireland poll, 71.1 percent voted 'yes,' and in the south a massive 94.4% were in favor.

Hopes rise for new era of peace

By SUE LEAMAN

BELFAST (AP) - The sky was the color of soiled concrete and a frigid wind lashed the River Lagan. But most festival-goers at Belfast's spring fair yesterday didn't care: Peace, they cheered, had come.

Shortly after 3:15 p.m. local time, the news flashed across the revamped dockland venue that 71.1 percent of the voters in Northern Ireland had said "yes" to the peace accord.

"I'm over the moon," said Catholic festival-goer Robert Fogarty.

"In my heart, I always knew it was going to be higher than the 60 percent the polls predicted."

"I'm hoping this will be the start of a new era. Anything is better than the past 30 years," said Sam Crozier, a fellow Catholic, listening as a pop band belted out a series of Irish folk songs.

But, having seen initiatives come and go, few people were entirely free of skepticism.

"The 'yes' vote is wonderful, but the test

will be whether the new assembly can be made to work," said property developer Michael O'Sullivan, a Catholic.

His Protestant girlfriend, Melanie Williamson, said people cannot help but wonder whether the leaders of the Catholic and Protestant parties can really work together.

"Right now, we don't know what we have said yes to," she said. "Will they fight?"

O'Sullivan is bitter that, when he was a child, his working-class parents were denied state housing because they were Catholics.

"But I'm ready to say, 'Let the past go and, from now on, let's have power-sharing and equality,'" he said.

"Which will be a miracle to achieve," Ms. Williamson finished wryly.

A hundred kilometers northwest of Belfast, in the mainly Catholic town of Greysteel, they began applauding as soon as exit polls late Friday foreshadowed the outcome.

"It had to be a yes," said Bobby Murphy as he sipped a beer yesterday in the Rising Sun

pub, where on Oct. 30, 1993 pro-British gunmen opened fire, killing seven people, including one Protestant. "Things could not go on as they were."

But in the staunchly Protestant Fountain district of Londonderry, Northern Ireland's second city, Rosemary Holland was not amused.

"I predict disaster," she said, angrily reaching for her cigarettes, one eye on her three sons sprawled in front of the television set in the family's tiny apartment. "It won't work - you'll see. They should have listened to Paisley, the leader of the hard-line Democratic Unionist Party, who urged a 'no' vote on grounds the deal weakens Northern Ireland's links with Britain."

But Sister Aloysius McVeigh, a 73-year-old nun from the Catholic order Sisters of Mercy, said the big "yes" vote would reduce the sectarian tensions she has fought all her life.

"We need to get to know each other, to understand each other," she said.

N. Ireland deal wins huge 'yes'

71.1% vote in favor

By MICHAEL STOTT

BELFAST (Reuters) - Voters on both sides of the Irish border resoundingly backed a landmark peace deal designed to end 30 years of Protestant-Catholic bloodshed, referendum results showed yesterday.

In Northern Ireland, 71.1 percent voted "yes," and in the south a massive 94.4% were in favor, according to final official figures.

"It's a day for joy," British Prime Minister Tony Blair told reporters at his residence in Chequers, northwest of London. "This is another giant stride along the path toward peace and hope in the future."

As Chief Electoral Officer Pat Bradley read out the result in a Belfast hall, waiting "yes" campaigners broke into cheers and jeered at their "no" rivals.

"Go home dinosaurs," they yelled afterwards at Protestant firebrand Rev. Ian Paisley, a leading opponent of the agreement.

In Washington, US President Bill Clinton said the people of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland had seized a "unique opportunity for a lasting peace."

World leaders sent their congratulations and hopes for a lasting peace.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's communications director, David Bar-Ilan, said: "No two cases are similar, but the fact that there is a step forward in the Irish peace process must encourage all who work for peace."

The Palestinian Authority said it hoped the vote would set the stage for peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

"We call on the British prime

minister to use his experience which led to the agreement in Ireland to try to reach a lasting peace between Israelis and Palestinians," Ahmed Abdel-Rahman, secretary-general of the Palestinian Authority, said in Gaza.

But a reminder of the problems still facing the province came when police said they had arrested two men near the Irish border yesterday driving cars filled with suspected explosives towards Northern Ireland.

"Both cars were searched and found to be containing what is believed to be bomb-making material. At this early stage it is not thought the material was primed or in a position for ready use," a spokesman for police in the republic said.

Dissident republicans in three groups opposed the peace process for its failure to remove British rule in Northern Ireland. The newest group, which calls itself the "real IRA," has declared a new war against Britain.

Turnout for the referendum was 81.1% in Northern Ireland, the highest seen in a vote in the province in living memory.

Bradley gave no breakdown of the vote in the north and there was immediate disagreement about how many of Northern Ireland's pro-British Protestant or "unionist" majority had backed the deal.

Mo Mowlam, British secretary of state for Northern Ireland, told a news conference that "this agreement is supported across the whole community, and in a majority of both [Protestant and Catholic] communities."

See IRELAND, Page 5

Gingrich calls off 'embassy' visit

US House Speaker Newt Gingrich said yesterday he had canceled a visit to the proposed site of the new US embassy in Jerusalem to avoid inflaming an already angry dispute over conflicting claims to the city.

Gingrich, who arrived in Israel yesterday, called off the planned visit on the eve of his departure from the US, following protests from Palestinians.

"I talked to National Security Adviser Sandy Berger. He felt that it would be far better for us to not do that because we're here to further the peace process, not to create an incident," Gingrich explained in Jerusalem.

He added that "I will reaffirm something. The Congress had made quite clear that we believe there should be an embassy here [Jerusalem] and that we believe that it should be built."

White House spokesman Mike McCurry told reporters in

Washington on Friday that Gingrich's decision to not visit the site "would be consistent with our views about the sensitivity of the embassy issue and consistent with what we've counselled others."

The Palestinian Authority welcomed Gingrich's decision, saying it staved off possible violence.

"We welcome his decision. It's a wise move," senior Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat told Reuters.

The government declined to comment on the decision.

Gingrich supports moving the embassy now, but the Clinton administration's position is that it is best to wait until the question of Jerusalem's status is settled in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

Last week, Erekat had warned Gingrich he could trigger bloodshed by getting involved in the dispute over the city's status.

Gingrich, a Republican from

Georgia, and US House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, a Democrat from Missouri, are here to participate in continuing 50th anniversary celebrations.

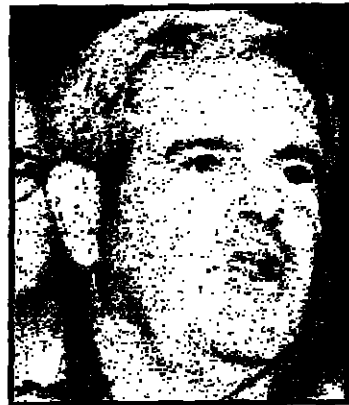
Gephardt had planned to visit the embassy site with Gingrich.

During his four-day visit, Gingrich plans to meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Gingrich, a critic of the US administration's attempts to broker a Middle East peace deal, said recently that Israel should be allowed to decide its own future.

Netanyahu's communications adviser, David Bar-Ilan, called Gingrich's trip "a show of friendship and solidarity at the time of Israel's 50th anniversary by the US Congress."

Hassan Asfour, a PA negotiator, condemned the visit as a show of "hostility towards Arabs and Palestinians and not a bridge of



Newt Gingrich

(Reuters)

peace."

From Israel, Gingrich is to travel to Jordan to meet with King Hussein, and then to Italy for an audience with Pope John Paul II. He will also visit American troops in Bosnia.

(News agencies)

Jaffa gangland killing leaves boy, 2, critical

A 25-year-old known criminal was shot to death and his two-year-old son seriously wounded Friday afternoon in Jaffa by an assailant on a motorcycle. Police said the murder was probably revenge for the murder of two brothers in March and arrested two of their surviving brothers.

Two men on a motorcycle approached Adel Atrash, 25, of Jaffa, on Friday at Yafet Street. One man got off the bike and shot Atrash to death, wounding his son in the process.

Atrash was pronounced dead at Wolfson Hospital, from where child was transferred to Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer for surgery. Channel 1 reported last night that he was in critical condition.

Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday remanded Riad and Anwar

Hamad, Visas Shurfi, and Ahmed Satef for five days on suspicion of involvement in the attack. Riad and Anwar's brothers, Moussa and Jalal, were murdered in Jaffa in March as part of an ongoing gang war over drugs.

Atrash, the eighth person murdered in Tel Aviv this year, was known to police for drug-related crimes and theft.

In other violent crimes over the weekend: Haim Rubin, 37, was stabbed to death in a schoolyard in Jaffa on Friday and his brother, Shalom Rubin, was remanded yesterday by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court for eight days on suspicion of murdering him over drugs; a 10-year-old boy was shot in Lod last night and admitted to Tzrifin's Assaf Harofeh Hospital in stable condition.

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NEWS

in brief

Hamas: IDF pullout won't stop suicide bombers

Palestinian suicide bombings will go on regardless of any Israeli troop withdrawals from the West Bank, Hamas spiritual leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin said Friday in Damascus.

Yassin said a troop withdrawal is "of no value and the struggle will continue until occupation ends. We will not stop suicide operations, because Israeli withdrawals will not amount to a solution to our cause."

Yassin, a 61-year-old quadriplegic, is on a tour of Moslem countries to promote his group. He met Friday with the speaker of parliament, Abdel-Qader Qaddoura, and Syria's supreme Moslem cleric, Ahmed Kastaro. AP

Netanyahu backs away from EU trade dispute

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu backed away Friday from a confrontation with the European Union over the export of goods made in Jewish settlements in the territories.

"We are very glad that we have been reassured by the European ambassadors that there is no intention to act on this proposed boycott," he said, referring to a meeting on Wednesday between the EU envoys and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman. His remarks to about 100 diplomats based here contrasted with the stern warning he issued on Tuesday that any EU action against Israel would show the bloc to be a "one-sided player" and so deny it any role in peacemaking. Reuters

PA spy suspect's remand extended

The Jerusalem Magistrate's Court on Friday extended the remand of Zuhair Abu Amar, the Jerusalem Municipality official arrested on suspicion of spying for the Palestinian Authority, by seven days. Abu Amar, 47, head of the Measurements Department in the City Engineer's Office, was arrested Thursday on suspicion of providing the Palestinian Authority with information about Arab land-owners who wished to sell properties to Jews. Four land dealers were murdered a year ago. A resident of Ras al-Amud, Abu Amar chairs a PA committee whose function it is to thwart sales of land to Jews. He has worked for the municipality for 25 years. Elli Wohlgelegen

Shultz, Haig: Clinton was wrong to back Peres

US President Bill Clinton was wrong to take sides in Israeli elections two years ago, former US secretaries of state George Shultz and Alexander Haig said at the 15th Annual Conference with the Secretaries of State in Los Angeles on Friday.

Ex-secretary Warren Christopher told the audience the US must continue to devote its energies to that region. "We have a huge stake in the Middle East," he said. "It will never change unless there is peace." But both Haig and Shultz chastised the Clinton administration for what Shultz called a "bad mistake in taking a firm position" in backing Shimon Peres, chief architect of the Oslo process, in his 1996 campaign for prime minister. AP

Girl killed riding bicycle with her father

A six-year-old girl from Arad was killed when the bicycle she was riding on with her father crashed while descending the road to Sodom.

The father was lightly injured but the girl was found seriously hurt by the MDA crew that transferred the two to Soroka Hospital, where she died. Ilim

India, Israel concerned US will stop ties

By STEVE RODAN

India and Israel are anxious that the US may try to stop their budding defense relationship in the wake of New Delhi's nuclear weapons tests, officials and strategists say.

Indian sources say the new government of Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee - impressed by the Israeli-Turkish relationship - has removed the political constraints from extensive defense cooperation with Israel in such fields as joint production of weapons systems, satellite developments and exchanges of intelligence.

"We're concerned, however, that the US will put pressure on Israel as part of Washington's sanction on us," an Indian official said. "We don't think the US will impose strict sanctions but it could

make it a point to stop Israel from helping us."

Unlike many other Western countries, Israel has not condemned India's nuclear tests earlier this month and has not taken any steps to curtail its defense ties with New Delhi. Officials of the two countries agree that prospects for cooperation are greater than ever because both face nuclear threats in the region.

Israel's nuclear threat stems from Iran and Iraq while India's threat is from Pakistan and China. Beijing has provided Pakistan with all of its nuclear technology.

The result, officials said, would probably include greater exchanges of intelligence, particularly on the transfer of nuclear technology to the Middle East.

"We have told the Israelis that we are prepared to help safeguard

their interests in this region," an Indian official said. "The source of our mutual nuclear threat is the same."

In recent strategic talks, representatives of India and Israel have agreed on a range of threat assessments as well as the benefits both countries can derive from their cooperation to face the ballistic missile and nuclear threat posed by their differing enemies.

The main differences come over Indian assertions that Israeli technology to China is being transferred to Pakistan and eventually to its ally, Iraq.

With Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu departing for Beijing today, the Indians have also quietly asked for Israeli help to stop China from selling weapons and nuclear technology throughout Asia.

The two countries also agreed

that any cooperation would be done secretly.

"Israel can benefit from this episode as long as we keep everything low profile," an Israeli defense source said.

Arum Banerji, a professor of international relations at Jadavpur University, agreed. "India will not do this overtly because it will antagonize the Arab countries and Iran," he said.

Israel and India are discussing joint production of unmanned air vehicles and naval attack boats. Among the systems being discussed for production is the Heron UAV and the Superdora Mk II, both of Israel Aircraft Industries.

"At this point, it's business as usual," an Indian defense source said. "There could be some speed-bumps on the road, however."

Officials said that the detonation

of the five atomic weapons will lead to increased efforts to speed up the modernization of India's conventional military capability.

"We would like to buy technology," said Shebani Ray Dada, a visiting research officer of the Institute of Defense Studies and Analysis in New Delhi. "The ships and UAVs are something we need to develop although Israeli equipment is generally more expensive than what we have been used to."

Girijesh Pant, chairman of the Center for West Asia and African Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, agreed.

"We're in the process of diversification," he said. "When you take a leap forward with this kind of [nuclear] testing and if the impression is that India is now isolated, it could be then that more money would go for defense."

Hizbullah rejects POW swap

BEIRUT (AP) - Hizbullah has rejected the latest offer from Israel on an exchange of prisoners of war and body parts, the Lebanese movement's secretary-general said yesterday.

Sheikh Hussein Nasrallah said he turned down the offer, because it amounted to "only some dozens" of Hizbullah and Lebanese prisoners.

"We will not accept such transactions unless they include all Lebanese and Arab prisoners," Nasrallah told a ceremony marking the fourth anniversary of Israel's abduction of a Shiite Moslem leader.

The ceremony was held at Kafr Naba, 60 kilometers east of Beirut, the hometown of Mustafah Dirani, who was kidnapped by IDF airborne commandos in 1994. Dirani was a leader of a break-away faction of the Amal militia, a rival of Hizbullah. It was thought Israel wanted to question him about the fate of IAF navigator Ron Arad, missing since his plane was shot down over south Lebanon in 1986.

Nasrallah said the Israeli offer was conveyed by several European countries whom he did not name.



Temple Mount security

Border policemen stand by for possible violence outside Al-Aksa Mosque during Friday prayers. Police have arrested eight persons suspected of stoning worshippers at the Western Wall from the Temple Mount the previous week and further arrests are expected. (AP)

US Senate approves Iran sanctions, threatens veto

By JACKIE FRANK

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Angered by Russian cooperation with Iran's missile program, the US Senate on Friday overwhelmingly approved a tough sanctions bill on firms that sell missile technology to Tehran.

The Senate approved the sanctions on a bipartisan vote of 90 to 4 over the strong objections of President Bill Clinton's foreign policy advisers, who said they will recommend it be vetoed.

The House of Representatives has approved the bill but must vote on changes made in the Senate before it can go to Clinton's desk.

"Iran's missile program has been

advanced tremendously by assistance from a wide range of Russian entities," Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, Republican of Mississippi, said in explaining his vote.

The administration told Congress this week that Russia's new government had made progress in controlling exports of missile technology and needed more time to put a tough nonproliferation policy in place.

In addition, it said that the legislation cast such a wide net that some companies or countries would be unfairly sanctioned, possibly backfiring on US goals of halting missile technology transfers.

"Imposition of erroneous sanctions could not only harm US

political and economic relationships with other nations but could dissuade foreign governments or persons from cooperating," the advisers said, in a statement of administration policy.

The bill would require Clinton to submit a report to Congress identifying the companies, research institutes or other entities where there was "credible evidence" that technology was transferred to Iran to aid its developing ballistic missiles.

Three types of sanctions would be required - denial of munitions licenses, prohibitions of dual-use licenses or denial of US foreign aid.

Clinton could waive sanctions if necessary to protect US national security.

Shara rejects Israel's Lebanon initiative

By HILLEL KUTTLER and news agencies

WASHINGTON - Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara rejected an Israeli offer to withdraw from Lebanon and took a swipe at Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government on Friday.

"This is not a path to a comprehensive peace," Shara told reporters after an hour-long meeting with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. "We don't accept a unilateral or partial peace."

Albright agreed that an overall agreement should be the goal of peacemaking in the region, a senior US official said.

However, she told Shara the US welcomed Israel's proposal to abandon its buffer zone in southern Lebanon and, as a practical matter, "we are willing to make progress wherever we can," the official said.

Israeli-Syrian negotiations broke down nearly 2-1/2 years ago.

"There is not much optimism in reviving the peace process," Shara said, of the stalemate in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. "The Israeli government's policy is the main factor."

Albright last month backed the Israeli offer to negotiate a withdrawal from Lebanon. She called for direct negotiations between Israel and Lebanon on new border arrangements.

Shara said his government was seeking "land for peace."

"We are ready to start the talks [over the Golan Heights] from the point that we finished," he said.

Shara said of his meeting with Albright that a "mutual desire" had been expressed to improve US-Syrian relations.

It was the first time that Shara had met Albright in Washington since she took office.

Meanwhile, in an interview with Qatar's state-run television station Al Jazeera, which was conducted at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, Ambassador Eliahu Ben-Eliassir called on Qatar and other Arab states to build ties with Israel.

Mashaal: Kuwait to host Hamas

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON - Kuwait, apparently continuing its vendetta against Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat over his support for Saddam Hussein following Iraq's 1990 invasion, has agreed to host a Hamas office, according to senior Hamas official Khaled Mashaal.

Mashaal, who survived a Mossad assassination attempt in Amman last September, told the London-based daily *Al-Quds al-Arabi* on Friday that "other countries" - presumably Arab - had also agreed to host Hamas offices.

He declined to confirm that one of these states is Iraq, but he did say that Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, currently visiting regional capitals, had accepted an invitation to visit Baghdad.

The London-based *Al-Hayat* newspaper also reported yesterday that Yassin would visit Baghdad. Yassin had not been scheduled to visit Iraq during his tour of Moslem countries.

Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein

invited him to "back the Iraqi people's stand against American dominance," *Al-Hayat* quoted Yassin's spokesman Abu Mohammed Mustafa as saying.

The date for the visit was not given.

According to Mashaal, Yassin promised Kuwaiti officials that he would attempt to establish the fate of Kuwaitis who have been missing since the seven-month-long Iraqi occupation.

Interviewed in Kuwait by the London-based weekly *Al-Majalla*, Yassin poured scorn on Arafat's stated intention of unilaterally declaring a Palestinian state next May if negotiations over final status issues have not been resolved.

Yassin noted that the Palestine National Council had proclaimed an independent state during its 1988 session in Algiers and that the Palestinians now had embassies all over the world.

"Proclaiming a state another time?" he asked. "Where? Is there a liberated territory where a Palestinian state can be declared?"

The Saudi-owned *Al-Majalla*, which will be published tomorrow, quotes Yassin as saying the 1988 declaration "changed nothing. Similarly, a declaration in 1999 will change nothing because the fact is that our people and land remain under occupation." Yassin said Hamas was dealing with the Palestinian Authority because the alternative was for Palestinians to fight each other.

"Palestinian blood is a red line we shall not cross... So we chose to accept the harm done by our kinsfolk and put up with imprisonment and torture rather than fight them."

Asked if Hamas would be more accommodating if Israel complied with the Oslo, Yassin said: "When the Israelis will comply with [UN resolutions] providing for full withdrawal from the land occupied in 1967, the return of Jerusalem to our people, the repatriation of our displaced people and the establishment of a free Palestinian state... we will talk about it."

Hizbullah bomb kills 2 SLA soldiers

By DAVID RUDGE

Two South Lebanese Army soldiers were killed when a roadside bomb exploded yesterday in a security zone, while two security zone residents were wounded in weekend fighting.

The attack came as the soldiers were patrolling in the Soufja area in the eastern sector of the zone.

Hizbullah claimed responsibility for the blast.

Hizbullah gunmen also fired several mortar rounds at the Soufja outpost.

There were no casualties from the mortar fire, which was apparently aimed at covering the retreat of the bombers. IDF and SLA gunners returned fire.

In a separate incident early

Friday morning, two civilians were wounded by mortar fire on Rehav village, in the eastern sector of the zone.

A woman who was moderately hurt was treated at the scene and later taken to Marjayoun hospital.

The other person was lightly hurt. This man's son had been killed in a Hizbullah roadside bomb attack last Tuesday.



Today, "Jerusalem Day", we commemorate the reunification of Jerusalem 31 years ago.

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The Jewish Quarter of the Old City, including 58 synagogues, was destroyed.

In honoring the unsung heroes - military and civilian - who fought for Jerusalem, we reiterate our pledge to keep the city undivided.

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THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR A UNITED JERUSALEM

P.O. Box 3320, Jerusalem, Fax. (03)544-2593

EAST JERUSALEM TRIP

Har Homa, Mount of Olives, Moslem Quarter, Orient House, Monday, 9:30 a.m., from Beit Agnon, 37 Hillel, Jerusalem.

Fee/info: "Our Jerusalem," 02-571 3337

Women
on S...

Benjamin
Netanyahu
is a
path for
conciliation

Pe...

Hi...

السنة ١٤١٩

Women's council wants seat on Swiss fund's board

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — The International Council of Jewish Women, saying that the majority of Holocaust survivors are women, is seeking a slot on the advisory board that allocates the Swiss humanitarian fund.

At a meeting of 18 of its European affiliates last week in Prague, the council passed a resolution that also called for the urgent distribution of the Swiss fund, which has more than \$180 million available to assist needy Nazi victims.

"There is an overwhelming feeling that women must have a representative voice on such an important issue," June Jacobs, president of the council, said in London.

"What I heard from [affiliates in] Slovakia, Poland, Prague, and Yugoslavia is that, tragically, there is a high number of elderly women survivors who live in poverty and sometimes in hunger," she said.

Jacobs said the ICJW, which represents some two million Jewish women, would appeal this week for a council seat from the World Jewish Restitution Organization.

The WJRO, which was formed in 1992, is responsible for the humanitarian fund's allocations to Jewish survivors.

It is comprised of Agudath Israel, B'nai B'rith, the Claims Conference, the Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish Agency, the World Zionist Organization, and Israeli and

American survivor organizations. Last June, the European Council of Jewish Communities agitated for a seat on the WJRO, arguing that Europeans cannot be excluded from an international organization that was originally created to recover Jewish property in Europe.

The Swiss humanitarian fund was established on March 1, 1997.

It made its first allocations last November, of \$400 each to some 80 survivors in Latvia. Since then, it has begun allocations to Nazi victims in Hungary, and says it is preparing for distributions in Central and Eastern Europe.

It is not known when aid will be available to survivors in Israel.

Historians to release probe of Swiss gold trade tomorrow

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — An international panel of historians on Switzerland's gold trade with the Nazis will release a report tomorrow that is expected to reveal the extent to which Swiss bankers knew they were dealing in looted gold.

The panel's chairman, Jean-Francois Bergier, said months ago that there would be some surprises in the report, but would not elaborate.

Among the issues is whether the Swiss knowingly violated Allied prohibitions on trading with the Nazis and whether the gold was tainted by items confiscated from Jews, including dental gold. The report will be released in Zurich.

There have been broad demands in the last 18 months that

Switzerland make "moral and material restitution" to Jews. Such demands have been made against the Swiss government and private commercial banks. The latter are facing lawsuits in the US over failure to release dormant Jewish accounts to survivors and heirs.

The Swiss government, which commissioned the Bergier panel, has repeatedly said it will not renegotiate a 1946 treaty, known as the Washington Agreement. In accordance with the agreement, Switzerland paid the Allies \$250 million in gold to settle claims against its wartime purchases from Germany.

The overwhelming amount of looted gold was stolen from the central banks of European countries as the Nazis overran those states. Meanwhile, the World Jewish

Congress released American documents that suggested that in one instance at least, Swiss bankers deliberately sought gold they knew to be looted. *The New York Times* reported yesterday.

A report by the Swiss National Bank acknowledged in 1985 that bankers must have known during the war that they were buying looted gold.

In December, the Bergier panel released a preliminary survey that, in essence, confirmed earlier reports of the Swiss gold trade with Nazi Germany from 1939 to 1945.

The Swiss National Bank bought 1.6 billion Swiss francs or \$389.2 million worth of Nazi German gold at wartime prices, according to that report.

The gold report is only one of several that is due from the panel,

whose members include the Israeli historian Saul Friedlander and Sybil Milton, formerly of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum.

The Bergier report was completed in March, but its release was postponed until it was translated from German into French, Italian and English.

The Swiss government and the central bank declined on Friday to say what they expected the report to uncover.

"I cannot comment on the contents, but the publication of this report will be important evidence that Switzerland is acting to come to terms with its wartime past," Marie-Marceline Kurmann, a spokeswoman for the Swiss government task force responding to Holocaust-era charges, told Reuters.

Bosnian Jewish head: Religion a path for reconciliation

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — Religion could be the path to reconciliation in Bosnia, despite more than three years of ethnic fighting, according to Jakob Finci, president of the Jewish community of Sarajevo.

"In Bosnia, the only chance we have is through reconciliation," Finci said. "Without reconciliation between the people, everything will be useless. In a small country like Bosnia, we must get along."

Finci, who heads a community reduced to about 700 Jews, was at the UN Wednesday with representatives of the Bosnian Muslim, Catholic Croat, and Orthodox Serb communities to discuss reconciliation in the Balkan state.

The violence in Bosnia was not a religious war, he said, and religion could be used as a vehicle toward reconciliation. "In each religion, we are told to forgive," Finci said in an interview. "Now is the time to forgive. We don't have to forget."

He acknowledged that religious leaders in Bosnia may not have enough authority to be compelling leaders. "After 45 years of socialism, it is hard to say religion is very important in our country," he said. But, he said, if religious leaders have the attention of only 20 percent of the population, that is still one million people.

At the UN, Mustafa Ceric, president of the Islamic council of Bosnia, said Muslim, Serb, and Croat political leaders should fulfill promises to allow the safe return of refugees. "The return of refugees is a sign that we have Bosnia back as it was before the war," he said.

Campaign begins to 'save the sea turtle'

By LIAT COLLINS

Local nature conservationists have launched their annual "Save the Sea Turtle" campaign and warn that the return of refugees is a sign that we have Bosnia back as it was before the war," he said.

This is the seventh year of the campaign along the Mediterranean coast, which aims to save the turtles from extinction.

The wardens find the eggs by looking out for the distinctive footprints of the pregnant mothers. Once located, the eggs are removed to a fenced-off artificial nest, which is a copy of the original nest. It is covered with netting to keep off predators, including humans. There are two artificial nesting sites, one at Atilit and the other at the Bazar Beach in western Galilee.

Mass hunting in the 1920s and 1930s, marine pollution, construction on the beaches and shoreline, and increasing traffic by bikes and ATVs have all contributed to a decline in the population of the turtles on the Israeli coast, according to the NPNA's Ofer Greenstein.

In addition, there is the problem posed by security lights along the beaches: these confuse the newly hatched turtles, who head for the road instead of the water.

In the 1930s there were reports of thousands of eggs laid along the coast here, but the number is now down to a few score, nearly all of them Brown Turtles. Green Turtles have become almost extinct, with only isolated eggs found if at all.

This decline in the population is one reason the NPNA is opposing massive construction in the area in which most turtles lay their eggs.

Greenstein is calling on the public to take part in the campaign by looking out for the eggs and turtles. Turtle activity can be reported to the authority at 02-500-5444.



These buses are early

A line of vintage Egged buses climbs to Jerusalem from Sha'ar Haggai on Thursday in preparation for Jerusalem Day. (Brian Hendler)

Egyptian scholar at Haifa University:

Peace process deadlock poses real threat of war

By DAVID RUDGE

There is risk of the Middle East "sliding into a war that nobody wants" if the deadlock in the peace process continues, according to Saad Eddin Ibrahim, a leading Egyptian sociologist who spoke at a Haifa University conference last week.

Ibrahim, professor of political sociology at the American University in Cairo, said during an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* that he is still optimistic the stalemate will be broken by negotiations.

But he added: "Despite my optimism, there is a real risk. It is not a panic, but there is a real concern." "The history of the (Arab-Israel) conflict has been one of missed

opportunities and wars that nobody wanted, and it is possible that we could slip into this (again)," said Ibrahim, who also heads Cairo's Ibn Khaldoun Center for Development.

"With adventurists on either side we could end up with a war," he said. "I am hoping and praying and asking everybody to fight against this."

Ibrahim was a guest speaker at an international conference at Haifa University held to mark the 20th anniversary of the Camp David Accords.

He said he had been an outspoken critic of Anwar Sadat, but was now a firm believer in the assassinated president's philosophy that conflicts can be solved only by peaceful means.

"Sadat was right about psychological barriers. After a great deal of reluctance to come to Israel, I have now been here four times in the past two years. I had to break through my own psychological barrier first," he said.

"When the moderate forces of peace are not working together more forcefully, they become marginalized and it is the hardliners who occupy the center stage," he said. "This is what appears to be happening in Israel. The hardliners are on the center stage and the peace forces are marginalized and are in disarray."

"I'm afraid the same thing could happen in the Arab world, although it hasn't happened yet," Ibrahim said. "The last polls and surveys show that the majority of people

(Palestinians and Egyptians) are still very committed to a peaceful settlement."

The conference, attended also by leading experts from Jordan and the Palestinian Authority, was organized by the university's Jewish-Arab Center in conjunction with the Gustav Heinemann Institute of Middle Eastern Studies.

Ibrahim is also a member of the newly-formed Cairo Peace Movement.

"If you listen to intellectuals alone, you get the impression that the majority are opposed to the peace process. If you survey public opinion, there is between 65 to 75 percent support for the peace process among Palestinians and Egyptians even now, despite the difficulties," he said.

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

Last resort

The stalemate in the peace process and the reported talks this week between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Labor Party leader Ehud Barak focused public attention once again on the prospects of a national unity government and possible early elections.

In her article, "National unity — the final resort," *Yedioth Aharonot's* Bina Barzel writes that, as of last week, all political scenarios seem possible. She adds that once the meeting between the two leaders went public, "everyone started to recall that Netanyahu was heading towards a political crossroads in the process that might hamper the stability of his government."

Barzel states that Netanyahu is aware of the fact that cooperation with Labor could cause a rupture within his own party and it is an option that he is considering as a last resort.

Ha'aretz's Hanna Kim concludes that Netanyahu's problem lies in the fact that he cannot implement the redeployment because of his coalition, but he knows that his remaining in power depends on the advancement of the peace process.

She adds that the solution is a national unity government "or continuing the rough poker game with the National Religious Party and

the Land of Israel Front until the withdrawal is presented to the cabinet and the Knesset; then, if he is forced to advance the elections, he will do so under the pretense that he had no options, despite his good intentions."

Yedioth's Nehemia Duek states that the Labor Party has an interest in establishing a unity government. She explains that the cooperation between the two parties will come at the expense of the extreme Right and the hardliners, who might withdraw their support from Netanyahu in the next elections if they decide to run a candidate of their own.

Yedioth's Nahum Barnea concludes that Netanyahu's main struggle is with his own government: "Netanyahu needs the elasticity of a rubber doll."

One year later

"One good thing happened as a result of talks on unity and the anticipation for the dispersal of goods: Labor Party members are backing Barak," states *Yedioth's* Duek, concluding Ehud Barak's first year as Labor Party leader.

She adds that after a year of antagonism against the chairman, Labor members have finally reached the conclusion that only a united front will strengthen Barak and might possibly avoid another four years in the opposition.

"The Labor Party candidate lacks the one thing which is possibly the most important for one who is fighting for this job: he lacks passion," claims *Ma'ariv's* Sima Kadmon.

She adds that the party which was a year ago "dying, impoverished, lazy, absorbed in self-pity, with self-destructive character problems," has remained so.

Kadmon believes that Barak was done great injustice by his party when it withdrew its support from him.

New General Staff

The filling of key positions in the IDF General Staff all at once is a luxury that can be indulged in by "an army that is confident that it will not face a wide military conflict in the next two years," states *Yedioth's* Alex Fishman, who claims that the timing of the appointments lacked any strategic calculation.

He adds that if the defense minister had chosen the chief of General Staff a year ago, the appointment process could have been more gradual, eliminating a dangerous situation.

"Now every one of them will learn to play his new instrument and all will have to play together under the guidance of the new maestro, Shaul Mofaz. The problem is that the orchestra will not have the

privilege of rehearsals, but each day, it will be asked to conduct a concert."


Ma'ariv's Ofer Shelah criticizes the situation where those holding the most important positions in IDF are all new. "Let's hope that in the next six months nothing will happen. Six months of silence, please. The General Staff is learning."

Out of order

Reaction to *New Yorker* writer David Remnick's article quoting Netanyahu communication director David Bar-Ilan as saying Sara Netanyahu is "not the most stable woman in the world," also occupied the press.

"This time we are not dealing with a worker who was fired or an Israeli newspaper that could be accused of being left-wing. This time it is the close assistant, the most loyal person... of all people, him," writes *Ma'ariv's* Ben Caspit. He adds that in the Prime Minister's Office, there are those who would like to see Bar-Ilan leave.

"There is one man, Binyamin Netanyahu is his name, who would be glad to see him stay. Netanyahu depends too much on Bar-Ilan for him to let him go," states Caspit, "but Bar-Ilan knows that this was also said about Avigdor Lieberman."



THE LONDON - JERUSALEM KKL-JNF VINTAGE CAR RALLY

FROM A 1928 MODEL FORD
TO A FUTURISTIC JAGUAR
HAS ARRIVED IN ISRAEL

The 27 vehicles participating in the rally, organized by the JNF of London, Great Britain, have made the 5,000 km. journey across Europe from London to Jerusalem to raise funds for water reservoirs in the Negev.

The public is invited to view the rare vehicles along their route in Israel.

Rosh Hanikra - 24.5.98
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Kiryat Shmona - The Khan
24.5.98, 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tiberias - Moriah Plaza Hotel
24.5.98, from 6:00 p.m.

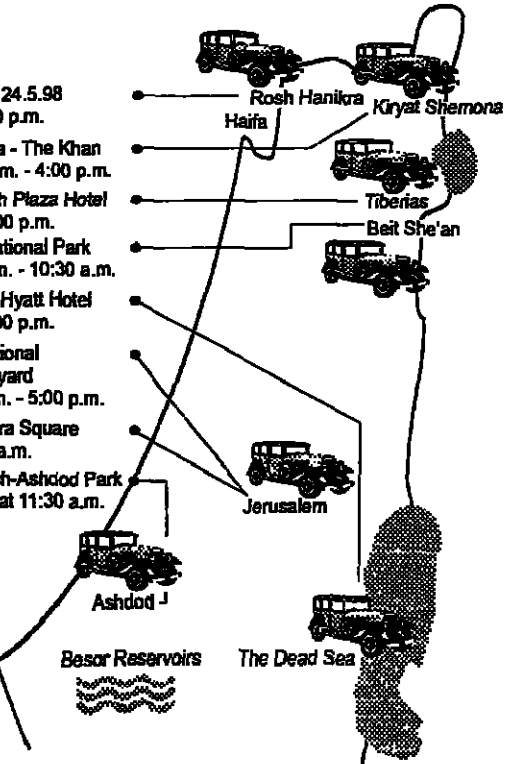
Beit She'an - National Park
25.5.98, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

The Dead Sea - Hyatt Hotel
25.5.98, from 6:00 p.m.


Jerusalem - National Institutions courtyard
27.5.98, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Jerusalem - Safra Square
28.5.98, at 9:00 a.m.

Ashdod - Lachish-Ashdod Park (Peleh)
28.5.98, at 11:30 a.m.



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BGU

אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Lord Weidenfeld of Chelsea, Chairman of the Board of Governors

Prof. Avishay Braverman, President

invite you to celebrate with us

THE 28TH BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

Sunday, May 24 - Thursday, May 28, 1998

Sunday, May 24

Concert by the Israel Sinfonietta, Beer-Sheva,
in celebration of Israel's 50th Anniversary
Jonathan Webb, Conductor
Felix Lifshitz, Singer
Sharon Choir, Kfar Saba
Dov Seltzer: Ode to the Scroll of Independence -
"This Scroll", Oratoria
Noam Sheriff: Israel Suite "Omrim Yeshna Eretz"
for Symphony Orchestra
The concert is held under the auspices of
the Israeli Friends of BGU

Monday, May 25

Opening Plenary Session of
the 28th Board of Governors Meeting
Special address by Prof. Sir Aaron Klug, OM,
President of the Royal Society, Nobel Laureate -
"The University and Society"

Lecture by Dr. Heinz-Horst Deichmann -
"Business and Business Ethics" under the auspices of
the Deichmann Chair in Business Ethics

Lecture by Eric Benhamou, President, 3Com Corporation -
"How Networks Will Affect our Lives in the Next Millennium"
Guest of Honor: Limor Livnat, Minister of Communications
Special Guest: Hanan Ahsaf, President, Motorola Israel
Chairman: Zvi Alon, President, NetManage, Inc.

Dedication Ceremony of
the Samuel and Milada Ayrton University Center
in the presence of Milada Ayrton, Switzerland, and
members of the Shrut family

Lecture by the author, Mario Vargas Llosa -
"The Truth of Lies"

Dedication Ceremony of the George Shrut Conference Room

Tuesday, May 26

Dedication Ceremony of the Forest Goldman-Sonnenfeldt
Building for Solar Energy and Environmental Physics
in the presence of Katja Goldman and Michael Sonnenfeldt
and family, USA

Cornerstone Laying Ceremony of
the George Evens Family Auditorium
in the presence of the Evens family, Belgium and France

Dedication Ceremony of
the Bengis Center for Desert Aquaculture
in the presence of Shelley and Arnold Bengis and family,
South Africa and USA

Establishment of the Bona Terra Foundation Scholarship
Fund for students at the Albert Katz International School
for Desert Studies will be declared in the presence of
Daniel Guggenheim, President of the Foundation

The foregoing ceremonies will be held at the Jacob Blaustein
Institute for Desert Studies in Sede Boker, in the presence of
MK Shimon Peres

Conferment of Honorary Doctoral Degrees upon:
Eric A. Benhamou, USA; Prof. Stanley Fischer, USA;
Yitzhak Shamir, Israel; Prof. Rita Süssmuth, Germany;
Kenneth L. Tucker, USA; Mario Vargas Llosa, Peru

Presentation of Lifetime Achievement Awards to
Dr. Heinz-Horst Deichmann, Germany;
Prof. Sidney Gelber, USA; Hyman Kreitman, UK



Wednesday, May 27

Unveiling Ceremony of New Names on the Ben-Gurion Wall
Dedication Ceremony of the Deichmann Building for Mathematics
in the presence of Ruth and Dr. Heinz-Horst Deichmann, Germany

Dedication Ceremony of the Larry Goodman Family Administration
Building for Engineering Sciences
in the presence of Lillian and Larry Goodman
Program: Remarks: Edgar de Picciotto, Chairman
Prof. Elchanan Helfman
David Brodet

Lecture by Prof. Stanley Fischer -
"Globalization: Risks, Benefits and the Israeli Case"

The Zlotowski Center for Neurosciences Lecture -
"Brains of Mice and Men" by Prof. Thomas A. Woolsey, M.D.,
Washington University School of Medicine
in the presence of Suzanne Zlotowski and family
Switzerland and England

Dedication Ceremony of the buildings and wings of
the Joyce and Irving Goldman Medical School:
Joyce Goldman Auditorium
in the presence of members of the Goldman and
Sonnenfeldt families, USA

Le Bâtiment de Recherche Clinique, Fondation "Flamme"
in the presence of Dr. Joseph Forgas, Switzerland
Ruth and Heinz-Horst Deichmann Sciences Building
in the presence of

Ruth and Dr. Heinz-Horst Deichmann and family, Germany
Ariel Elia Medical Building
in the presence of Tamara and Ariel Elia and family, France
Gerson Epstein Physiology Wing
in the presence of Aileen and Jules Whitman and family, USA
M. Ernst Wing

in the presence of family members
Zlotowski Neurosciences Wing
in the presence of Suzanne Zlotowski and family
Switzerland and England

Guest of Honor: Prof. Ephraim Katzir
Fourth President of the State of Israel
With the participation of Prof. Gabi Barabash, Director-General, Ministry
of Health, and Dr. Yitzhak Peterburg, Director-General, Kupat Holim

Birthday Party celebrating the
25th anniversary of BGU's American Associates
Guest of Honor: Ambassador Zalman Shoval

Thursday, May 28

Lecture by Prof. James L. Kugel, Harvard University,
participant in BGU's Distinguished Visitors Program -
"The Torah's Most Ancient Interpreters"
in honor of Norbert Blechner, USA

Closing Plenary Session of the 28th BOG Meeting
Chairman: David Brodet,
Chairman of the BGU Executive Committee

Unveiling Ceremony of
New Names on the Founders Wall

Presentation of the Spitzer Award for Professional
Excellence in Social Welfare in the Negev
in the presence of Jack Spitzer, USA
Guest Lecturer: Dr. Aya Biderman, M.D. - "The Family
Physician: A Bridge between Modern Medicine and the
Person in his Community"

Additional events taking place during the Board of Governors Meeting

An exhibition of photographs of David Ben-Gurion
will be on display at the Avraham Baron Art Gallery
- "The Past Entails the Present from which the Future
Evolves". The exhibition includes photographs by
David Rubinger, Werner Braun, Micha Baram,
Alex Gal and others.

Monday, May 25
Lecture and establishment of the Fund for Visiting
Lecturers in the Department of Hotel and Tourism
Management, in the presence of Michael Zeiger
and family, USA

Tuesday, May 26
Lecture and unveiling of the plaque of the Kedourie
Collection at the Zalman Aranne Central Library in
the presence of Sylvia Haim-Kedourie and the
Hyams family, UK, under the auspices of the
Department of Middle Eastern Studies

Tuesday - Thursday, May 26-28
Second International Symposium on Interaction of
Industrial and Fundamental Research in Catalysis -
under the auspices of the Blechner Center for
Industrial Catalysis and Process Development

Wednesday, May 27
Exhibition of photographs by
"Perach" children and their tutors

Thursday, May 28
Symposium under the auspices of
the Harry Stern Applied Research Program

For further details, please contact the Department of
Public Affairs, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev,
P.O. Box 653, Beer-Sheva 84105
Tel: 07-6461754, Fax: 07-6472937

In Israel's jubilee

אשר יצא

New Indonesian gov't sworn in

JAKARTA (Reuters) — Indonesia distanced itself further from the Suharto era yesterday with a new cabinet sworn in, a military purge and the country's top economy minister calling for a general election as soon as possible.

Students evicted from parliament overnight after a five-day occupation put their protests on hold and a top aide of new President Jusuf Habibie appealed to the world for time to carry out "reformasi."

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said it would send its top Asia expert to the troubled country to review the situation.

Indonesians and foreigners who fled abroad at the height of last week's riots over the country's collapsed economy started to trickle back home, already filling nearly all plane seats into Jakarta from Singapore until next Wednesday.

Deposed president Suharto, who ruled Indonesia for 32 years until he resigned last Thursday, remained in seclusion in his central Jakarta home with a news blackout on his activities.

There was also no news of his family of six children whose wealth from government-backed business monopolies was part of the reason for their disgraced father's fall.

Armed forces chief and Defense Minister Gen. Wiranto took undisputed control of the military when in a lightning overnight reshuffle he moved Suharto's son-in-law, Lt.-Gen. Prabowo Subianto, out of the capital.

Wiranto, a key figure in the transition of power, relieved Prabowo of his command of the army's top combat force, the strategic reserve, Kostrad, shifting him to head the staff command college in the West Java city of Bandung.

Wiranto also shifted several other generals regarded as close to Suharto out of strategic posts.

Student leaders said they were withdrawing from the streets for the moment to review the new government's actions but warned they were ready to demonstrate again if reform did not go ahead.



Indonesian President Jusuf Habibie (front center) stands with some of his new cabinet ministers after the swearing-in ceremony held in Jakarta's presidential palace. (Reuters)

In yesterday morning's swearing-in ceremony for Habibie's new 36-member cabinet, each minister pledged not to accept gifts or to take advantage of their position to enrich themselves.

Ginandjar Kartasasmita, the man charged with fixing the economy of the world's fourth most populous nation, said his job could only be done hand-in-hand with political reform.

In forthright comments unheard of by a minister in the Suharto era, Ginandjar, the Coordinating Minister for Economics, Finance and Industry, said a general election was "imperative" and needed as soon as possible to give the government a mandate.

"One thing is for sure, we need

to have a new government with a new mandate from the people and the new mandate is given through general elections so it is very important that we have a general election as soon as possible," he told a news conference after he was reappointed to his post in the new cabinet.

"So I think the general election is imperative and I don't think we have to wait until 2003 [when one is scheduled]," he added.

Ginandjar, point man in dealings with the IMF and other international financial organizations, said the government's first two priorities were restoring the strength of the rupiah and controlling inflation, which is running at more than 50 percent and rising.

Asked what was a fair level for the rupiah, currently trading at about 10,000 to the dollar, Ginandjar replied: "I think 6,000 is still the goal. I think it is a good value but when we can achieve that level is another matter."

IMF chief Michel Camdessus and US Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said it was too early to restart negotiations over economic reforms set as conditions for a \$41.2 billion IMF-led international bailout package.

"My view is that it needs to wait a bit," Rubin told reporters on Friday as he arrived at the Canadian resort town of Kananaskis for a meeting of Pacific Rim economic ministers.

Camdessus told reporters there

that "some time" was still needed before the fund could resume talks on restarting payments to help Indonesia out of its worst economic crisis in decades.

In his first speech as president on Thursday, Habibie committed his government to meeting all the IMF conditions.

The head of a US House of Representatives human rights panel, Chris Smith, said in Washington he would visit Jakarta next week to discuss human rights with government officials.

Smith said the aim of his trip was to help persuade the new Habibie administration to make a speedy transition to democracy, with free and fair elections, and to stress the importance of human rights.

Pakistan vows to resist India threat

ISLAMABAD (Reuters) — Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said yesterday that India was using nuclear tests to "blackmail" Pakistan into dropping its claim to Kashmir and vowed that any "misadventure" by New Delhi would be rebuffed.

He accused the Indian government of trying to impose a military solution to the dispute over Kashmir, cause of two of their border wars, and appeared to link an eventual nuclear test by Pakistan to further friction over the region.

"The open statements emanating from the Indian leadership virtually amount to nuclear blackmail by India to impose a military solution to Kashmir," Sharif told his first full news conference since India tested nuclear devices last week.

"Any misadventure will be met with a resolute response," he said. "I repeat. Any misadventure will be met with a resolute response."

The news conference followed statements by India's Hindu nationalist leadership that it would take a "proactive" stance on Kashmir and would not tolerate what it called Pakistani spon-

sorship of guerrilla groups fighting to end Indian rule.

Sharif, who came to power in 1996 vowing to improve relations with India and seek a settlement of the Kashmir dispute, said India was not interested in negotiations.

"The Indians have spurned our peace initiative and answered with atomic tests across our border, which, as you know, is 60 miles [100 km.] away," he said.

It was the most implicit linkage the Pakistani government has made between its own nuclear test and the dispute over Kashmir, two thirds of which is ruled by India and the remainder by Pakistan.

Earlier Foreign Minister Gohar Ayub Khan said that tension between the two over Kashmir could escalate into open conflict.

Sharif said an eventual decision on Pakistan conducting its own nuclear test "would be taken in our supreme national interest."

"Since May 11 we are living under the dark shadows of Indian nuclear sabre-rattling. The fundamentalist Indian leadership bared its teeth even before the dust had

settled at Pokhran [India's nuclear test site]," he said.

He said the threat of sanctions from the US and Japan would not intimidate Islamabad. He said Pakistan had shown restraint in responding to India's nuclear tests despite having warned Western powers of the country's nuclear capability for years.

He said the Indian tests were a direct threat to Pakistan's security and complained that Pakistan's need for security is being ignored by the Western world.

Sharif also expressed special gratitude to the longstanding friendship between Pakistan and China. India says that it is under a nuclear threat from China, which was a key reason for its tests.

Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes, meanwhile, said yesterday that his country's recent nuclear tests should not hamper confidence-building measures with China and Pakistan.

PM

Continued from Page 1

"There has never been a more liberal, conciliatory, more open and more generous treatment of the Palestinian economy than under this government," Netanyahu said.

"As a result, you will probably see this year, for the first time since the Oslo agreements, a real upturn in the Palestinian gross domestic product per capita."

Netanyahu is scheduled to hold a cabinet meeting this morning, on the eve of his departure to China, to update ministers about his talks in Washington last week.

Steve Rodan and Mohammed Najib add:

The PA expects the US to give Israel no more than two more weeks to agree to an IDF withdrawal in the West Bank before the Clinton administration releases its plan to revive the peace process, a PA official said yesterday.

The US deadline was relayed in a phone call from US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat on Friday night, Arafat spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh said.

Abu Rudeineh said that US efforts to break the Israeli-Palestinian deadlock over IDF redeployment in the West Bank will continue for another week or two "before the US will present its position."

"So far the contacts [between the US and Israel] haven't led to any results," Abu Rudeineh said. "The entire world knows that Israel is responsible for the stalemate."

Iran celebrates anniversary of Khatami election

TEHRAN (AP) — Tens of thousands of Iranians carrying pictures of President Mohammed Khatami and banners praising him took to the streets of the Iranian capital yesterday to celebrate the anniversary of his election a year ago.

The boisterous crowd, made up equally of women in mandatory black veils and men, marched a kilometer and a half from Tehran's Vali Asr Square to Tehran University. "Khatami, Khatami, we support you!" they shouted.

Earlier, at Vali Asr Square, one of Tehran's most prominent, students carried banners that read, "Dear Khatami, we are ready to sacrifice our life for you" and "Khatami, we love you."

Khatami's landslide victory against a hard-liner on May 23 shook the foundations of Iran's

clerical rule. The 20 million people who voted for him, mainly women and students, have claimed his victory as a triumph for civil liberties, and he remains popular among them.

Since taking office in August, Khatami has tried to improve ties with the West, appointed women to senior positions and eased social restrictions imposed after the 1979 Islamic revolution. In January, Khatami proposed cultural exchanges with the US, long derided as the "Great Satan" by earlier governments.

Iranian newspapers yesterday praised Khatami's first 10 months in office, saying he had brought about greater freedom and enhanced the country's image abroad. But many said he still needed to take steps to improve the faltering economy.

IRELAND

Continued from Page 1

But Paisley and his allies claimed most unionists had turned down the peace agreement and accused the "yes" campaign of "bribing and bullying."

News of the result was taken calmly on Belfast's streets, where grey skies, cold winds and grim memories of violence tempered residents' enthusiasm.

Leaders of Sinn Fein, the political wing of the outlawed IRA, were jubilant.

"I think people throughout this island have voted for change," said Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams. "The task now is to manage that change."

The peace agreement proposes maintaining Northern Ireland's links with Britain while building closer ties with the Irish

Republic in a bid to end a conflict involving bombs, bullets and beatings that have cost some 3,600 lives over the past three decades.

But a minority of hard-line Protestants could still try to derail the pact, analysts said.

"It's clear that there is still significant opposition. There's no question of that," Paul Bew, professor of politics at Queen's University in Belfast, told RTE television's Prime Time program.

"This is going to be a long haul this summer," he said, contemplating the next step of the peace process — elections on June 25, which will select participants in a new Northern Irish assembly to run local affairs.

The split among Protestants reflected opposition to the peace deal's provisions for the early release of prisoners jailed for their part in the conflict.

CAPITAL

Continued from Page 1

A memorial service for Ethiopian immigrants who died on their way to Israel will be held at Givat Hamatos from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The Jerusalem Jubilee March will take place from 3-6 p.m. along Yaffa, King George, Ben-Yehuda, and Bezael streets, ending in Sacher Park. Many streets downtown will be closed to traffic, and residents are urged to use public transportation.

Demonstrations will also be a part of the day: at 11 a.m. the Temple Mount Faithful and the Our Jerusalem Movement will demonstrate outside Orient House under the slogan "We will never leave here."

The National Religious Party will hold its annual ceremony awarding the Religious Zionist

Prize for National Leadership and Achievement at 6:30 p.m. at the Kook Institute in Kiryat Moshe.

A thanksgiving dinner in honor of Israel's jubilee anniversary will be held at the Great Synagogue at 6:15.

Free guided tours of City Hall will take place in Hebrew, English, Russian and French. Hebrew tours will take place on the hour from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; English tours at 10:00, 12:00, and 2:00 and Russian at 9:00 and 11:00.

The Islamic Wakf called on Palestinians to come to the Old City, particularly to Al-Aksa Mosque, today "to prevent attempts by settlers to break into the holy place."

The statement also called for church bells to peal and for imams to call out from the mosques at 1:30 p.m. when they expect the march to approach the area of the Temple Mount.

WORLD

in brief

FDA, Pfizer investigate deaths in Viagra-takers

Six men have died after taking the blockbuster impotence pill Viagra, but it is not clear whether any of the deaths were caused by the drug, the US Food and Drug Administration said Friday.

The FDA said it and Pfizer, the makers of the drug, were investigating the causes of the deaths.

But Pfizer pointed out that more than a million people, most of them middle-aged, have been prescribed the drug.

FDA spokeswoman Laurie McHugh said the FDA called Pfizer on Thursday to ask how many men had died after taking Viagra, which has been on the market since April.

"They reported to us that they had learned of six deaths of people taking Viagra," she said.

"We are going to look into these reports as we do all adverse reports," she said. "We continue to believe that the drug is safe and effective for its indications and the patient population."

Reuters

Microsoft trial scheduled for September

A federal judge has set September 8 as the date for the trial of the government's antitrust lawsuit against Microsoft Corp. — much sooner than the software giant had sought. Microsoft had wanted a delay of seven months before it replied to federal and state lawsuits, putting off a hearing until next year. By that time, analysts estimate, Microsoft will have sold 16 million or more copies of its new Windows 98 computer operating system software, which is at the heart of the case.

"By the time that you propose, there will be 16 to 18 million horses out of the barn, and that's too late," US District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson told Microsoft's attorney during the hearing.

Jackson did grant Microsoft's motion to have state and federal actions combined into one lawsuit. However, he made that decision "provisional" and said there could be a further order.

Reuters

Trucker killed in Florida road-rage shooting

A truck driver stuck without exact change in a toll-booth lane was shot and killed by an angry motorist in an apparent case of road rage, Florida police said yesterday.

"I can't believe he shot me," the truck driver told motorists who stopped to give him first aid after the shooting, according to police reports.

The trucker, who was not identified while police tried to notify his family, died about an hour after being airlifted to the Orlando Regional Medical Center, police said.

"I would call it an apparent case of road rage," said Ron Corlew, an investigator for the Orange County Sheriff's Office. "It was senseless."

The motorist, who witnesses said was young and had two male passengers with him, then shot the driver and sped off.

Reuters

Egyptian guides to learn self-defense

Wary of attacks on Egypt's vital tourist trade, the government has begun training guides in self-defense and anti-terrorism tactics, the Cairo newspaper *Al-Gumhuriya* reported yesterday. The 10-day courses, conducted by the Interior Ministry, teach guides first-aid, self-defense, how to determine if terrorists are tailing their buses and how to detect explosives, the paper said.

AP

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Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord.

Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn,

a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the peoples,

"Where is their God?"

Then the Lord will be jealous for his land

and take pity on his people. Joel 2:17-18

"Consecrate yourselves and be holy,

because I am the Lord your God." Leviticus 20:7

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Federal judge rules in sex-scandal case:

Clinton bodyguards can testify

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - President Clinton's Secret Service bodyguards may be compelled to testify before a grand jury investigating the White House sex scandal, a federal judge ruled.

Clinton said the ruling might well create problems for the presidency and White House spokesman Mike McCurry suggested that the ruling would be appealed.

"It'll have a chilling effect on, perhaps on the conversations presidents have and the work that they do and the way they do it," Clinton said in a Rose Garden news conference. "I think it will raise some serious questions and present a whole new array of problems for managing the presidency and for the Secret Service managing their responsibility."

US District Judge Norma Holloway Johnson on Friday rejected the Secret Service's argument - backed by former president George Bush - that presidents would put dangerous distance between themselves and their protectors if agents had to testify about a president's private life.

The Justice Department and the

Secret Service were trying to carve out new legal ground in advocating that presidential bodyguards, like attorneys, doctors, confessors and spouses, be exempt from having to give evidence received in confidence.

McCurry snapped when pressed on the issue by reporters saying, "I'm not going to go into it any deeper, it's still in front of the courts, it's going to have to be appealed."

Earlier, he said it would be up to the Treasury Department, which oversees the Secret Service, and the Justice Department to decide whether to appeal. "We won't play any role in that decision," McCurry said.

Asked whether his department planned to appeal, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin told reporters as he arrived for a meeting of Pacific Rim finance ministers in Kananaskis, Alberta: "We have not made a decision." He said Treasury and the Justice Department were still reviewing the judge's ruling.

Asked what effect the ruling could have on the president, McCurry replied, "I can imagine

he'd want to sit and talk with his national security adviser about the conversation he had with the prime minister of Pakistan today without having the Secret Service agent - who then would have to testify about it - overhear it."

In ruling against the Secret Service's claim, Johnson said there was no federal precedent for the so-called protective function privilege, and that in any case, new privileges should not be created lightly.

She also rejected the agency's argument that without the mutual trust and confidence that would allow a Secret Service "zone of protection" around the president at all times, the risk of assassination was increased.

"While the concerns of the Secret Service are legitimate, the court is not convinced that compelling Secret Service personnel to testify before a grand jury regarding evidence of a crime would place presidents in peril," Johnson wrote.

The Justice Department said it was concerned by the ruling. "While the court did recognize that the Secret Service's views are legitimate, we are concerned that



Bill Clinton

(Reuters)

the court did not fully appreciate the impact that its decision could have on the safety of the president and other people the Secret Service protects," the department said in a statement.

In another thread of the tangled accusations swirling around the Clinton administration, documents released Friday indicate Clinton approved a deal for a China satellite launch for Loral Space and Communications Ltd. even though the White House knew of an alleged criminal security breach by the aerospace firm.

US president blames 'changing culture' for school shootings

SPRINGFIELD, Ore. - Police yesterday were cataloging a startling collection of explosives found in the home of an Oregon teenager charged with killing his parents and then opening fire in a crowded school cafeteria, killing two students and injuring 22.

Considering the age of the suspect and the sophistication of the bombs, "I think remarkable is not overstating it (the collection of explosives)," Lane County Sheriff Jan Clements said.

President Clinton yesterday attributed a string of deadly school shootings to "a changing culture" of violent movies and video games that teach children they can lash out with guns - and with impunity.

He coupled an expression of the nation's grief with a plea to Congress to pass his juvenile crime bill, which includes a provision banning violent juveniles from buying guns for life.

Kipland Kinkel, 15, was in a juvenile detention facility after a court appearance late Friday. Nine victims from Thursday's high-school shootings were still in the hospital, including a 16-year-old

girl and 17-year-old boy who were listed in critical condition.

Springfield's residents held a candlelight vigil Friday night, trying to understand the mayhem that has shaken this blue-collar town in the heart of Oregon's timber country.

At the community vigil, held in the shelter of a covered parking lot, blue plastic ribbons fluttered from trees and light poles on Springfield's major thoroughfares, and blue water splashed in the city fountain.

Nearly 1,000 people attended the vigil, including many students from Springfield's other public high school, who were grieving the death of Spanish language teacher Faith Kinkel, 57, the suspect's mother.

Her body and that of her husband, teacher William Kinkel, 60, lay undisturbed for more than 24 hours after being discovered as police bomb experts combed through their A-frame house and found at least 12 devices with explosive potential. Among them was a very sophisticated explosive crafted in the empty canister of a household fire extinguisher.

Police urged neighbors to leave their homes in the secluded upper middle-class development known as Shangri-La Estates while the house was searched.

After disarming two homemade explosive devices found in a crawl space, deputies began combing the house for murder evidence, only to have their work halted again when a third device was discovered that required disarming.

Police said they also found two "pipe-type" bombs in the crawl space as well as unidentified smaller explosives in a desk drawer in Kinkel's room.

Shackled hand and foot and wearing a black University of Oregon sweatshirt, Kinkel showed little emotion at the court hearing and kept his eyes down. The hearing lasted less than two minutes, just long enough for him to be presented with a document charging him with four counts of aggravated murder.

Students and parents lined the hallways along with ranks of photographers to catch a glimpse of Kinkel as he was led out of the courthouse and back to his cell. (News agencies)

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Princes of pratfall

By HELEN KAYE

Sean Foley and Hamish MacColl are very serious comedians, grandly lumatic clowns in the great English music hall tradition.

Together Foley and MacColl are the heart and soul of Right Size Theater, authors and performers of the acclaimed *Do You Come Here Often?* which has three (or now) performances at the Israel Festival starting June 3.

They first came in 1995 with *Stop Calling Me Vernon*. "We didn't anticipate the reaction we got," says MacColl. "The laughter was rich and generous and there was a connection [with the audience] that was warmer than I expected."

Vernon was about a couple of failing comics who aspire to the heights of tragedy – and never make it, of course. *Do You Come Here Often?* concerns a couple of complete strangers, whisked mysteriously to a public bathroom where they awake bound and gagged, and where, as their beards get longer, they spend the next 25 years trying to get out.

In the play, Foley is Kevin Kevin – the vicar had a stutter at his christening – grabbed at the corner grocery. MacColl is David Seymour, nabbed in the middle of his best man speech at a wedding. Passing the time becomes as important as trying to escape, and the two ransack the genre to create what the *Guardian* called an inspired blend of vaudeville and philosophy.

"After *Vernon* we wanted to have two characters who didn't know each other and, being imprisoned together, had to get to know each other," MacColl explains.

"During incarceration, one refuge is the imagination. The other is the practical, rational mind. These are the two poles for this show," he elaborates.

"We work very intuitively, write on our feet really, through improvisation, and then we shape that into actual text. We learned to structure our shows through trial and error. Writing one show a year for 10 years is a great teacher. The greatest challenge is to know how to end."

MacColl, 36, was born in Bangkok where his diplomat

father was stationed. He received a degree in English literature from Cambridge University, where he got involved in theater "doing classics with the Mummies at Fitzwilliam College."

Three years younger, Foley was born in the North of England. He went to Oxford and got a degree in history. The two met in Paris where both had gone to study clowning with Philippe Gaulier. They did street theater in Paris and decided to set up Right Size when they returned to London in 1988.

From its early days "the theater developed organically," says MacColl, "and we've pursued style with monastic discipline. What we try to do is see the world from different angles, to arrive at different perspectives all the time. We're telling the story and are its victims at the same time. We are aware of being storytellers, so really nothing is happening and there's a huge comic muscle in that."

Critics have wiped the tears of laughter from their eyes while comparing Right Size to such authors as Beckett and Pirandello. Audiences from Borneo to New Zealand, and from Brazil to Spain have held their sides and roared. In Buenos Aires the theater management had to barricade the theater because of the demand for the sold-out show. In Oman they played for a men-only audience and received gold watches from the Sultan and "in 1991, we were the only ones not allowed to cancel at the Cairo Festival because of the Gulf War," their bio says.

The Right Size is a very close-knit group which includes artistic codirector Micheline Vandepoel, also one of the theater's cofounders, and *Do You Come Here Often?*'s director, Josef Heuben, who has worked on eight previous productions.

When they're not working with the Right Size, MacColl and Foley each has a busy writing and performing TV career. Later this year they'll be working with the Almeida Theater in London on *Mr. Puntila and His Man Matti* by Bertolt Brecht, a creator – like Shakespeare, Chekhov and Beckett – of great comic characters.

"We're interested in character and situations," says MacColl of the characters they create. "These



Sean Foley (left) and Hamish MacColl leave their audiences rolling in the aisles. Catch them in June in *Do You Come Here Often?*

are the great clown themes of man's existential desperation and

of his desire to do well that is almost always nearly frustrated,

but the frustration never knocks him back. He always tries again."

Shabak Samech better in person

Sabra Sounds



By Emily Hauser

When 20.2.98 arrived on my doorstep, I took one look at the track listing and thought I'd found the solution to my ambivalence towards Shabak Samech. (I recognize the band's talents professionally, but am not a huge fan; I only really like a handful of their songs.) And, lo and behold, here was a live recording (of a concert which took place on the title date) featuring all the tunes I like!

20.2.98
Shabak Samech
(NMC)
★ ★ 1/2

BROOHIM HABA'IM
LEYISRAEL
Ethnix
(Helicon)
★ ★ ★ 1/2

What I failed to consider is that part of what makes Shabak Samech good is the fact that they are very well produced.

It's the easiest thing in the world for rap to degenerate into a whole lot of unintelligible shouting, but as the band's previous album, *Ha'atifa Shel Hamantak* (The Candy Wrapper), proved, it doesn't have to be that way, if the lyrics are produced with clarity and showcased by really good musicianship.

Yet the sound quality of live recordings is almost never as good as that on studio albums, and when the genre requires the artist to wrap his lips around a microphone and yell with all his might – well, you can imagine.

The upshot is that while 20.2.98 is a decent recording of some of Shabak Samech's best work, its live nature makes it better suited to the hard-core fan than to the occasional listener. It sounds like the kids in the audience had a great time, and I don't blame them. It's just that some concerts are better left in



The boys in the band of Shabak Samech

the concert hall.

IF MIZRAHI music has a foothold in the mainstream, it's in no small part because of Ethnix. The band started out with strong world-music credentials (traditional instrumentation meets rock 'n' roll) but quickly became a high-quality, heavily pop-influenced Mizrahi outfit.

Ethnix's most recent release, *Broohim Haba'im Leyisrael* (Welcome to Israel), is a good example of why the band has gotten so popular in the process.

First of all, the pop-to-Mizrahi ratio is carefully maintained.

The oriental electric organs and twangy guitars are very much present but are interspersed with Western pianos and acoustic strumming, making the whole package broadly accessible.

Moreover, much like that other crossover success, Tea Pack, Ethnix demonstrates an attractive willingness to poke affectionate fun at themselves and their audience.

On *Broohim Haba'im Leyisrael*, we find "BMW Shehora" ("Black BMW"), in which the hero falls for a Sheinkinite and tries to shed his heavy gold bracelets for eyebrow piercing, only to find that she's not interested.

"I quickly saw that I was on the right track," sings lead singer Ze'ev Nehama. "I put my bracelets back on and went back to my neighborhood! Hands in the air! Feet with a beat! There's a big party tonight! I'm free and happy!"

Likewise, for every stereotypical line (For instance: "For years I've thought there's no one like Mom"), Nehama writes two that veer off in unusual directions,

often addressing issues most wouldn't touch.

The album's first track, "Pithi Lo et Libech" ("Open Your Heart to Him"), sounds for all the world like a standard woman-should-love-her-man tune, when suddenly there's this: "You left no sign/only a Bible on top of a Koran... she left her love because of his faith."

As the CD continues to spin, Nehama lambastes sexism ("I'm the chauvinist standing in your way"), tells the tale of a Cairo prostitute happily serving both sides of the peace talks, and compares the Knesset to "120 aliens."

He even suggests, taking the part of a loving Abraham, that there may have been more to Sarah's barrenness than we realize: "You've never let me get to know you! Sarah, you're mine! just send me your embrace."

Finally, Nehama and writing partner/fellow band member Tamir Kaliski know how to fashion a good hook. There simply isn't a single song on this album which doesn't leave the listener humming, and if that isn't a hallmark of pop excellence, I don't know what is.

DID YOU KNOW?

Q: Who is George Wasouf, mentioned in the credits to Ethnix's "Pithi Lo et Libech"?

A: A Syrian singer whose voice was sampled and can be heard throughout the song. The band thanks him on the back of their album, where they write in Arabic:

"Ethnix offer their respect and appreciation to the great singer George Wasouf."

CLIFFORD BROWN (THE COMPLETE BLUE NOTE AND PACIFIC JAZZ RECORDINGS)
Clifford Brown
(NMC)

MARSALIS STANDARD TIME
Wynton Marsalis
(NMC)



By Calev Ben-David

Jazz has fewer sadder stories than that of trumpeter Clifford Brown. Unlike such self-destructive burn-outs as Charlie Parker and Chet Baker, the self-disciplined, drug-free Brown had the bad luck to be killed in an auto accident on the Pennsylvania Turnpike in 1956 at the tender age of 30.

As it is, this four-disc Clifford Brown set represents the total recorded musical legacy of a precociously talented player-composer-bandleader who, had he lived long, would probably have ended up in the pantheon next to such fellow horn giants as Miles Davis and Dizzy Gillespie.

Brown came of age with the bebop generation and was a master of the blistering tempos and radical harmonic variety that characterized that music. He was a supreme trumpet technician, able to cram a dizzying array of crisply defined single notes into a line of music.

The four discs in this boxed set are the recordings he made in the last three years of his life, including Brown performing as part of the Art Blakey Quintet at New York's Birdland; a recording of the Jay Jay Johnson Sextet, which teamed Brown with the rhythm section of the Modern Jazz Quartet (John Lewis, Percy Heath and Kenny Clark); and three albums featuring Brown as leader of his own groups, including such top players as Philly Joe Jones, Zoot Sims and John Lewis.

The numbers range from such bebop classics as Gillespie's "A

Night in Tunisia" and Ray Noble's "Cherokee," song standards like "It Could Happen to You," and several of Brown's own fine compositions.

These excellent discs aren't for those who like their jazz mellow, as Brown – one of the leading figures of what became known as "hard bop" – usually played at a blistering pace.

Indeed, the only time he falls a little short of inspiration is on the few slower, more bluesy numbers included here. Of course, playing that kind of soulful music to its fullest expression usually requires some degree of maturity from the artist – and alas, Brown never got the chance to fully develop as the great jazz talent he surely would have been.

It's not surprising to find Wynton Marsalis quoted in the liner notes for the Clifford Brown set ("If you play a Charlie Parker solo on the trumpet, it sounds like Clifford. He had them fingers, too.")

When he first burst onto the jazz scene in the 1980s while still in his

early twenties, Marsalis too was heralded as a trumpet prodigy with virtuoso technique, who also demonstrated early talent as a composer and bandleader.

Today, of course, Marsalis has emerged as the dominant jazz figure of this generation, winning an unprecedented Pulitzer Prize for his jazz compositions last year and earning comparison with no less than the likes of Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington.

Columbia has just released here his decade-old recording, *Marsalis Standard Time*, which dates from the period when the full measure of his genius was still not apparent. In a quartet with three other top emerging jazz talents – pianist Marcus Roberts, bassist Robert Hurst, and drummer Jeff Watts – Marsalis delivers inspired performances of such standards as Ellington's "Caravan," Gershwin's "Foggy Day," and Johnny Mercer's "Autumn Leaves."

One can even make a direct comparison with Clifford Brown, as

Marsalis also tackles "Cherokee." Brilliantly breaking its bass line into percussive patterns which add real punch to this piece, Marsalis delivers what I think is a vision superior to that of Brown – high praise, indeed.

Yet Marsalis is still attacked in some progressive jazz quarters as a conservative, reactionary figure, who turned his back on such trendy movements as free-jazz and fusion and led a return to such earlier forms of the music as swing, blues and big band.

On the liner notes, he himself offers a defense to those charges: "In my generation, we didn't know how to play the blues, couldn't improvise over chord changes, didn't know anything about swinging – and didn't care, either. We interpreted all of those musical skills as expressive of a bygone era that had no relevance to us. A serious misconception." But the real answer to his critics is in his music. *Marsalis Standard Time* is proof enough of a jazz legend in the making.

Festival a classical disappointment

COMMENT

By Michael Aizenstadt

The Israel Festival opens tonight with two major musical events.

At the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra from Amsterdam makes its long-awaited Israeli debut under music director Riccardo Chailly, while at the Sultan's Pool in Jerusalem there is a tribute to the songs and artistry of the incomparable Naomi Shemer.

But these two events cannot disguise the fact that on the whole, the classical musical facet of the Israel Festival leaves much to be desired.

Whether one wants to admit it or not, for the past few years the Israel Festival, at least as far as classical music is concerned, has been a somewhat miserable affair. There was nothing really attractive in the past few festivals, basically a mixture of numerous second- and third-rate events which were easily forgotten once the festival was over. Granted, there were occasional intriguing events, but on the whole there were too many failures in the festival, too many events that had nothing to do with what the Israel Festival should and could be.

Since the festival's inception, classical music has been the major component. But in recent years, the classical concerts have been the most disappointing part of the festival, even though numerically they have constituted the largest number of events. The festival never managed to attract first-rate classical musicians and what we get is a series of non-interesting events, which are far inferior to the average classical music diet Israel has to offer.

Israel indeed has a great classical music scene year in and year out.

The Israel Festival simply cannot compete with events like the Israel Philharmonic 60th anniversary celebrations festival or even the annual Liturgical festivals. The artistic quality of the Red Sea Festival in Eilat with the Kirov forces can only be envied by the Israel Festival, and the list goes on.

And in fact, the classical music program in this year's festival is not much different from past years. It has a few interesting elements, but on the whole it is quite dismal.

This year there is much less classical music than usual. Granted, budgets are problematic, but how can any major Israeli event take place without the leading orchestra of the land, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, which these very days is performing one of the rarest Verdi operas, *Simon Boccanegra*, with Daniel Oren conducting? The presence of Oren and some renowned international opera singers could have been the nucleus of a grand festival evening.

As for chamber music, the offering is a poor man's attempt to maintain the fact that we have a festival. Sorry, ladies and gentlemen, we do not. Take a look at the chamber music offerings in Edinburgh this year and you will see what a real festival is all about.

Maybe the Israel Festival should eliminate music from its program altogether, as it will never be able to match what happens in the country during the rest of the season. Instead, it should put all the money into creating a first-rate dance and theater festival which will get out of its fringe-oriented mentality and become a world-class event.

Until that happens, our festival will be quite meaningless.

That said, bringing the Concertgebouw to Israel is one of the major achievements of the Israel Festival in the last decade, and for that at least, one must be grateful.

Verdi: Simon Boccanegra (Opera in concert form)

Daniel Oren, conductor

Florenza Cedolini, soprano
Keith Ikala-Purdy/Alberto Cupido, tenor
Angelo Casertano, tenor
Leo Nucci/Wolfgang Brendel, baritone
Wicus Slabbert, baritone
Paul Plishka, bass
Carlo Strilli, bass
Mina Blum, soprano
Philharmonia Singers directed by Yuval Ben-Ozer

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Ireland's voice says 'peace'

The referendum results on both sides of the Irish border yesterday are astonishing by any measure of a democratic process. In the Irish Republic's 41 voting constituencies, the highest 'no' vote against the Belfast peace accords was 7 percent in Kerry North; in all the others it hovered between 4 and 5 percent.

Probably more astonishing still was the 71 percent 'yes' vote across bitterly divided Northern Ireland. It is a loud and clear demand by the people of the troubled province that the gun be taken out of Irish politics, and that their future be charted along the lines of the Belfast accords. The only sour note was, as usual, sounded by the chief bigot of the religious right, Ian Paisley. He has for decades thundered that the voice of the people of Northern Ireland "as a whole" is all that matters — based on his certainty that his Unionists would retain their traditional hegemony over the downtrodden Nationalists and deny them an effective voice. Now that the people as a whole has spoken out with a resounding 71 percent in favor of the Belfast agreement he abhors, Paisley has cried foul and claimed that a majority of Unionists rejected it. He demanded an immediate meeting with British Prime Minister Tony Blair to press his lost cause.

There remains a long road ahead in the Northern Ireland peace process, but it is time Paisley and all extremists accept that their world is shrinking and their day is done. The old political ploy of changing the rules as the game progresses, just as they changed constituency borders to gerrymander the majorities in past elections, will work no longer. If the Nationalist IRA and its political arm, Sinn Féin, are ready to accept the inevitable and end the war for a united Ireland, the Unionist side in turn must also accept the inevitable truth that in a united Europe there is no room for a bitterly divided Ireland.

Although no British politician will dare say so, given the paranoia of the Unionist extremists, it is clear from the near unanimous Nationalist 'yes' vote that the majority of Irish people see the Belfast accords as a big step on the road to the reunification of the country. There is some irony in this, since what Blair actually has done since becoming prime minister is to accelerate the fragmentation of Britain as a whole with his radical decentralization plans. Scotland, Wales, and now Northern Ireland will set up their own legislatures to deal with their regional concerns — leaving London just in charge of defense and foreign policy.

Irish Nationalist politicians have been careful to reassure the Unionists that the concept of unity is about people, not territory — there is no land for peace formula in the Irish peace process. Already the Northern Irish business

community has forged ahead in developing North-South cooperation. In the first decades of the republic, the Northern Irish Unionists were able to parade their union with Britain as offering their people better economic conditions. In this decade, the republic has become the prosperous tiger economy of Europe, leaving the stagnant and violence-ridden North far behind. This has reversed the flow of cross-border traffic for economic advantage, leaving the hard-line Unionists with little to crow about except a sterile ideology based on increasingly dusty historical anecdote. It was significant that the first triumphant chants against Paisley yesterday from Unionist 'yes' campaigners was "Go home dinosaur!"

The peace train now seems unstoppable, especially since the referendum in the North went off without any violence. Next comes the election for the new 108-seat Assembly, scheduled for June 25. The interest in the four-week campaign for this vote will center on whether the two communities will choose their representatives from the moderates or hard-liners in their respective political camps. Controversial decisions within the Assembly will have to be passed by 60 percent overall, or by a majority of both the Unionist and Nationalist blocs of politicians. These systems will prevent simple majority voting that would allow the Unionist bloc to outvote the Nationalists. The type of politicians elected will determine how easily the Assembly will be able to compromise and avoid fiery confrontations.

For now, Paisleyites are isolated to the Unionist right, and the IRA to the Nationalist fringe. The local heroes of the hour are the moderate leaders — John Hume from the Nationalist camp and David Trimble, the most courageous Unionist leader Northern Ireland has seen since its creation in 1922. Hume and Trimble both climbed on stage together on Friday night when the Dublin rock band U2 campaigned successfully in Belfast to bring out the youth vote. The combination of rock stars, politicians, and a huge cross-cultural audience was a heartening image of a new Ireland and a new Irish spirit.

It was a measure of the immense achievements so far of the Easter weekend peace agreement and it is to be hoped that the Nobel Peace Prize committee has a fat file on Ireland's men of peace, especially Hume, Trimble, and Sinn Féin's Gerry Adams, who stepped out of the shadow of the gunmen and into the democratic spotlight by delivering the crucial IRA ceasefire. With the support of President Bill Clinton, who supplied the negotiator, and the British and Irish prime ministers, who changed the entire political climate, Ireland's politicians and people can all be proud of themselves today.

I'LL THANK YOU TO STEP ASIDE



I remain an optimist

TEDDY KOLLEK
with Amos Kollek

Jerusalem is clearly one of my greatest passions. I have devoted more than 30 years of my life to building the city, and I see the results every day, mostly to my delight. It is a source of pride and hope.

The most recent period, however, is a bit more questionable. Quite a number of young people have left the city, primarily because of pressure from the haredi community. The divisions are deep. The haredim, who do not serve in the army, want to enforce their way of life on the city and a solution seems far-off, and not without difficulties.

Still, I cannot quite understand the pessimism at a time when so much has been achieved. And if the odds don't always look good, I know we can beat them. I am an optimist about the city and about Israel, and so far, at 50, our history proves me right time and time again.

When I first stood for mayor in 1965, I did so because David Ben-Gurion and several of my friends prevailed upon me to run. I was very reluctant. Still, I preferred running for mayor to being on the Rafi list for the Knesset. I couldn't see myself as a parliamentarian.

Certainly, Jerusalem and Israel seem more complicated than other states and cities established since the end of World War II. Today we are going through a critical stage, but when we keep our perspective and look around the globe, Israel is clearly the real success story of the 20th century, with Jerusalem as its flourishing capital. But because of our critical nature, we are filled with remorse, complaints, and pessimism. The successes are almost forgotten.

I can still remember how a week before Ben-Gurion declared the state in May 1948, Moshe Sharett was called for a meeting with US secretary of state George Marshall, the former head of the Allied armed forces. Marshall warned Sharett against the declaration of a State of Israel, because the Arabs would attack and destroy us in no time.

The Jewish Agency Executive, the temporary government, was deeply divided after hearing Sharett's report. But Ben-Gurion

thought this was the one great opportunity we couldn't miss, a joint US and Russian decision for creating a Jewish state (as well as an Arab state and an internationalized Jerusalem).

There was another reason not to wait in Ben-Gurion's mind: Jews from Europe and from Moslem countries had nowhere to go. Tens of thousands of Holocaust

When we keep our perspective, Israel — with Jerusalem as its capital — is clearly the real success story of the 20th century

survivors and Jews persecuted in Arab countries were in great jeopardy. We needed a state to save them. The British were still in Palestine and allowed no Jewish immigration.

Ben-Gurion knew the fate of the new state would be decided on the battlefield. He had done everything to train the Hagana for the coming fight. But it was only his strength and utter determination that convinced the temporary government to declare the state.

The world gave us little chance to survive a year. But during that first year we absorbed more immigrants than we had inhabitants. Jerusalem became our capital because we accepted the UN partition plan. The Arabs did not and they were driven out of many places, including Jerusalem.

We have now survived 50 years and if we compare the State of Israel with other states born at the same time, we are the only democracy and only viable economy in the lot. So there is room for optimism.

LOOKING back on my 28 years as mayor, comparing the city then and now, I see tremendous growth everywhere. Not just in the completely new neighborhoods created, but in schools, health services, community cen-

ters, museums, theaters, a football stadium despite severe Orthodox objections, government institutions, the beginnings of industry.

Even with all this, we are still far from what I hoped to accomplish — which only means we have more work to do, more to plan, more to build, more dreams to fulfill, rather than to sulk and criticize.

I don't see any reason to incorporate Ma'aleh Adumim and other suburban areas within Jerusalem. The strength of a city is measured by its content, not its size. If we incorporate the Jewish areas suggested, how can we justify not including the neighboring Arab villages?

I was convinced from the start it would take at least a couple of hundred years until this conglomerate of people that have assembled here would learn to live together. In 50 years we have certainly come a long way. Our absorption of immigration, both in the city and in the country, is unprecedented in history.

We have grown to 600,000 inhabitants in Jerusalem, well over 400,000 of them Jews. We were even on the way to general peace with our neighbors when the terrible tragedy of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin occurred. But we have the right to be content with our accomplishments, despite some harsh setbacks the last two or three years. And we should draw strength from the many good things, big and small, that we witness every day.

A week ago I was abroad on one of many fund-raising trips for projects in Jerusalem. This time it was for a sculpture garden in the shape of Noah's ark. Nikki St. Phalle, who constructed the "Monster," the sliding board in Kiryat Hayovel that delights thousands of children, has made dozens of figures of animals that will arrive within half a year and will fulfill another dream of pleasure and hope alongside the zoo, where Jewish children — from all backgrounds — and Arabs meet and play together daily.

It's these positive things we should focus on, looking toward the future, not the things that divide us; they will disappear in time.

City of Peace

DANIEL BLOCH

There is a consensus among almost all of Israel's Jewish population, and among Jews all over the world that Jerusalem should remain united forever as the capital of Israel and as the spiritual center of the Jewish people.

Every leader around the globe knows this, including every Arab and Moslem leader, from Arafat to Assad.

They know they can try and pressure Israel on any issue except the unity of Jerusalem.

And even as they speak about Jerusalem as the capital of the Palestinian state, they know this is a dream that will never come true. They will have to give up this dream if they want to get their own Palestinian state in most of the West Bank and Gaza.

THIS RECOGNITION is mainly the result of the wise policies and the compassionate managerial style of Teddy Kollek as mayor of Jerusalem, combined with the wisdom of the late prime minister Levy Eshkol, who stated clearly at the outset that everything is negotiable, except Jerusalem.

Luckily, we had Kollek and Eshkol at the helm at that time, rather than Prime Minister Benyamin Netanyahu and Mayor Ehud Olmert.

If their mistakes at the Western Wall tunnel, Har Homa, the Old City's Moslem Quarter and Ras el-Amud would have happened 30 years ago, we would not enjoy the national and international consensus about Jerusalem that we have today.

Perhaps we can derive a little encouragement from the moderate reaction of both Olmert and Netanyahu to the news that the Palestinians are building what might be their future parliament building in Abu Dis, just outside the municipal boundaries of Jerusalem. Maybe they have learned something.

If we want to keep Jerusalem united and maintain peaceful coexistence between Arabs and Jews, we have to recognize that the Palestinians and the Moslem world have some religious and national feelings towards Jerusalem.

Yes, our claim is much stronger, any way you look at it. They have

Allowing a Palestinian state with Abu Dis as its capital city can be the key to a permanent settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

many other capitals, more important holy places and other historical symbols.

But Jerusalem has also a special meaning for them. This must be taken into consideration if we want to reach a stable and lasting peace with the Palestinians and the Arab world.

MANY BELIEVE that the Jerusalem issue will be the hardest to solve and therefore it should be left to the end of the final-status negotiations. But perhaps we should rethink this. An agreement on Jerusalem, combined with an agreement on a Palestinian state, might lead the way to an easier compromise on the territorial aspects, the future of the settlements and the security arrangements.

Most of the elements exist already in the Belin-Abu Mazen agreement, much of which is acceptable to the majority of the Likud.

This was made clear in the talks between Yossi Beilin and Michael Eitan, conducted with the tacit blessing of Netanyahu. It might be one of the foundations for a national unity government that will fight nationalistic and religious extremism and will advance peace.

Allowing a Palestinian state with Abu Dis as its capital city, with some symbolic connection to Jerusalem, can be the key to a permanent settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The Palestinians, together with Jordan and other Arab countries that signed peace treaties with Israel, can be in charge of the Moslem holy places in Jerusalem.

Orient House can serve as a liaison office between the Palestinian state and the city of Jerusalem.

An extra-territorial area in Jerusalem such as the present UN headquarters in the High Commissioner's Palace can serve as the administrative center of the joint economies and development projects of Israel, Jordan and Palestine.

There are a lot of other creative solutions to the issue of Jerusalem that will leave the world satisfied and the sheep intact. If they can be resolved, then the question of two percent, more or less, in territorial concessions will seem trivial.

Jerusalem Day should serve not as a launching pad for further provocations against the Arab residents of the city, but as a day of soul-searching and creative thinking about how we can use the wide consensus on Jerusalem as a key to moving the peace process forward.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NOTHING BUT PRAISE

Sir, — With slight apprehension I boarded the El Al plane last month for a journey to Israel to take part in the State of Israel's 50th anniversary celebrations.

As a volunteer for the USA Florida Chapter of Beit Hachochim, I wanted to personally join the disabled veterans and share with them their tragedies and triumphs they've sustained in defense of

their country.

The apprehension I felt stemmed from my group's visit in 1991 for the ground-breaking ceremony of a new rehab-center in Jerusalem, where we were almost ignored.

How very different it was this time, because now I have nothing but praise for the well-organized, exemplary executed reception we received from the Beit Hachochim

leadership.

I returned home, thankful for being able to meet my co-volunteers from many parts of the world and with an even stronger resolve to work with my heart and soul for full rehabilitation and welfare of each and every disabled Israeli war veteran.

ANNA OSTROWIAK
Aventura, FL

MILLO'S HOPE

Sir, — It is hard to be a secular Zionist these days. The religious want to take away your freedom. The Arabs want to take away your land — and the Israeli Left doesn't object to this at all.

Joining the movement that resists the religious dictum means joining the give-and-take-in-a-burry crowd. What's the value of freedom if there is no land left in which to celebrate?

Supporting the National Camp brings you together with the some of the same people who want Dana, Eurovision and the Bar Sheva dancers out, and their brand of Khomenei-ism in. What's the point of having the land if you can't have any fun in it?

Roni Milo's recent announcement brings hope that there is an alternative. We now have to wait and see if the secular Zionism, represented today by Milo, regains momentum, or dies away.

BORIS VOLFSON
Haifa

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On May 24, 1933, The Palestine Post reported that in view of the serious water shortage which could bring suffering to tens of thousands of inhabitants, as well as economic ruin to Jerusalem, the paper had commissioned a special investigator, Mr. Kurt Kramarski, the Chief Reporter of The Berliner Tageblatt, to study the city's water supply.

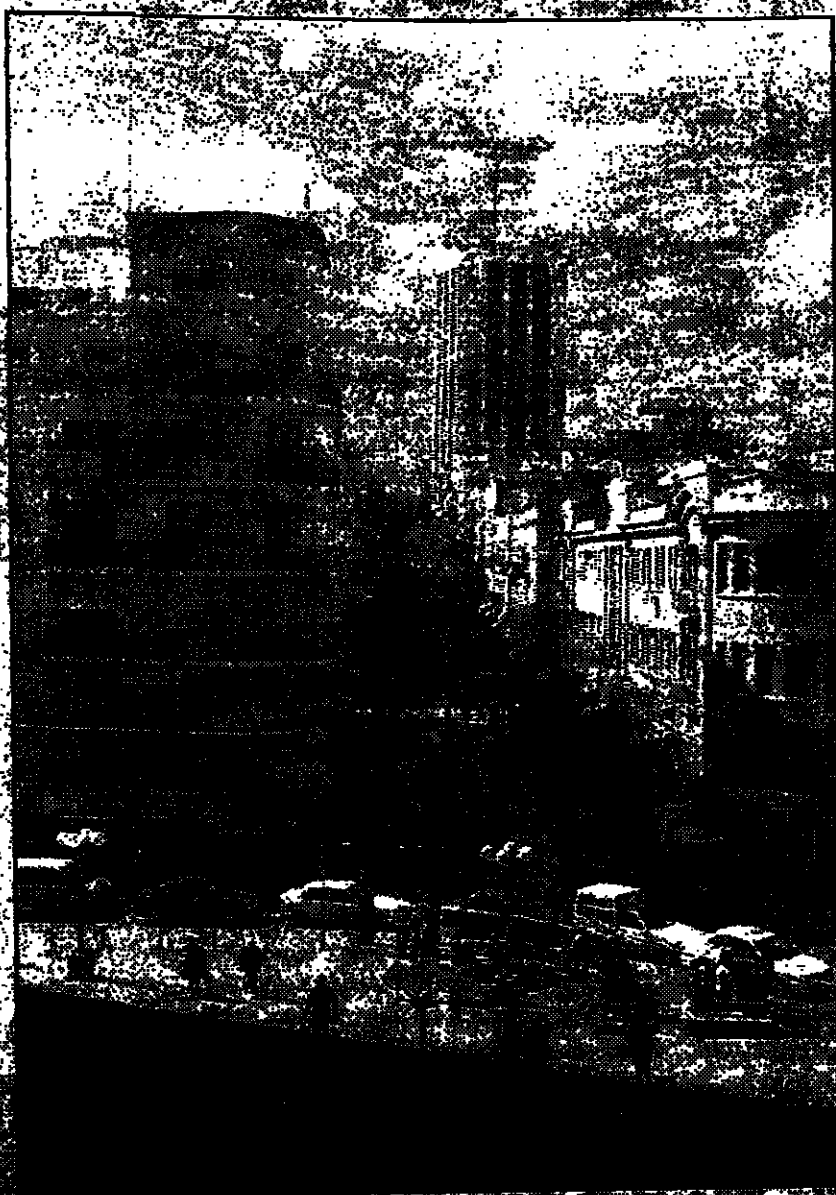
50 years ago: On May 24, 1948, The Palestine Post reported in a stencil print-out, caused by the frequent electric current failures, that following the UN Security Council's call for cease-fire, a short hull followed two days of the Arab Legion's heaviest shelling of Jerusalem. Soon afterwards, however, Arab Legion guns went into action again against the Haddassah

and Hebrew University complex on Mount Scopus. American Consul-General and US Petty Officer were killed by Arab snipers and a number of other consular workers were injured. Ramat Rachel was won back and was now in Jewish hands.

Alexander Zvielli

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Jerusalem then and now



(Left) Ben-Yehuda pedestrian mall in the city center, with a tall office building in the background; (top) Ben-Yehuda Street in 1924 and (above) in 1930.



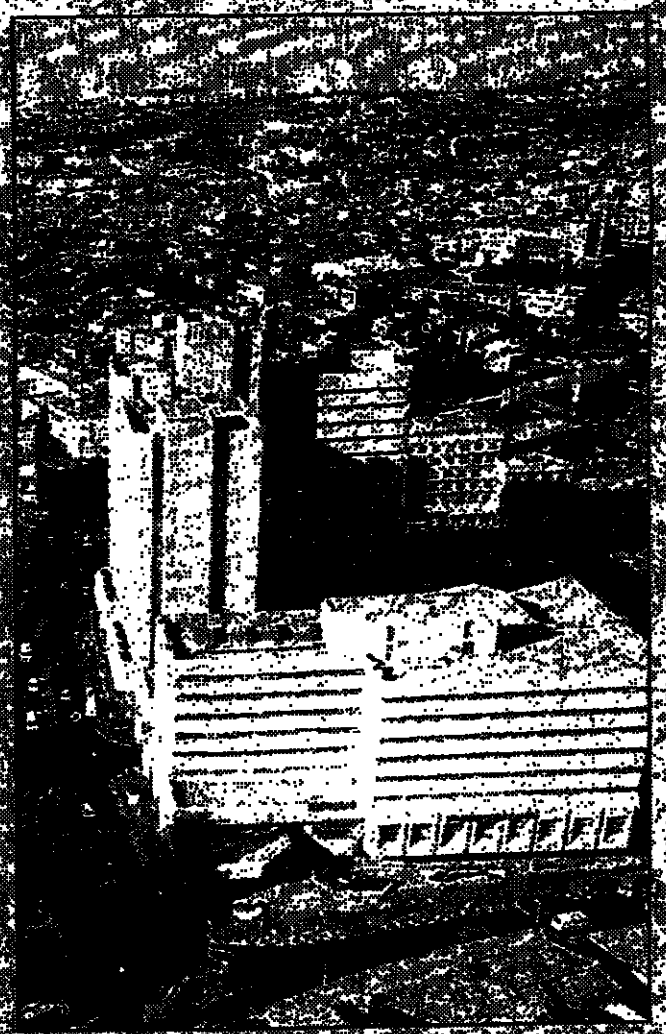
(Top) The neighborhood of Nahlaot, photographed in the early 1960s; (above) the newly gentrified Nahlaot today.

More than a century ago, Jerusalem in the late 19th century was a neglected, dusty, and grimy town. The streets and alleys of the Old City were narrow, dark, and full of refuse. But this dismal reality prevailed only close to the walls. Outside the city proper, the landscape was a vast, open plain. A population of about 12,000 in the early 1840s (according to a British Admiralty survey) grew to nearly 50,000 by the end of the 19th century. By the end of the

19th century, the city had grown in all directions. The Old City had been reduced to a tiny section of a large, sprawling and multi-faceted metropolis with a population of well over half a million. Many of its residential areas were quite far away from the Old City. The bulk of the city's growth in the late 19th century was in the areas around the Old City. The city's growth was not just in size but also in the quality of its infrastructure. The city's infrastructure was improved, and the city became a more modern and vibrant place. The city's growth was not just in size but also in the quality of its infrastructure. The city's infrastructure was improved, and the city became a more modern and vibrant place.



(Above) The Alliance Israelite vocational school building on Jaffa Road, near the end of the 19th century; (right) The Clal building towers over Jaffa Road, where the Alliance school once stood.



(Left) In the mid-19th century Beduin pitch their tents outside Damascus Gate; (above) Damascus Gate today.



(Top) Facing north to Jaffa Road from the intersection of King George V, Mamilla and Ramban streets in the late 1920s; (above) King George Street today, where it meets Ramban and Agron (formerly Mamilla) streets.

Israel - Then, Now and In-Between
by Amiram Gonen,
photos by Doby Tal
Published by The Jerusalem Publishing House

Wolf Prize intellects shine at the Laromme

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Jerusalem's Laromme Hotel was so thick with geniuses recently that you could almost cut the IQs with a knife. It was the venue for a conference honoring 40 out of the 172 people from 18 countries who have won Wolf Prizes during the last 20 years.

The late Ricardo (Richard) Wolf would undoubtedly have been thrilled had he been able to attend the unusual conference. Born in Germany in 1887, he later moved to Cuba, and was named by Fidel Castro in 1961 as that country's ambassador to Israel.

A self-made millionaire industrialist, Wolf remained in his diplomatic post until 1973, when, in the wake of the Yom Kippur War, Castro cut off diplomatic relations with Israel.

Wolf, a good Jew, decided to remain in Israel, and lived here until the end of his life.

Since 1978, Wolf Prizes worth \$100,000 have been awarded each year to scientists and artists for their contribution to mankind and friendship among nations. The prizes are awarded specifically in the fields of agriculture, chemistry, mathematics, medicine, physics and art (rotating with music, drawing, sculpture and architecture).

The award has become identified as a purely Israeli prize, handed out amid pomp and ceremony in the Knesset's Chagall Hall by the president. The private Wolf Foundation also grants scholarships to students in institutions of higher learning. Highly prestigious and known around the world, the Wolf Prize is often the precursor to a Nobel Prize.

It was Prof. Ehud Keinan, a chemist at the Technion in Haifa, who thought Israel was doing too little to mark the country's 50 years of scientific achievements during jubilee celebrations this year.

A former jury member of the Wolf Foundation and a researcher at California's famed Scripps Research Institute for the last seven years, Keinan suggested holding an interdisciplinary conference of Wolf Prize laureates in Jerusalem.

No one else volunteered, so Keinan - in the amazingly short period of six months - organized the conference and managed to get financial support from Novartis, the Swiss-based giant pharmaceutical company, whose president, Dr. Daniel Vasella, was enthusiastic about the idea.

"Society and industry need integration and synergy in their scientific specialties. That's why, as an experiment, I wanted to bring together top achievers in the diverse fields in which Wolf Prizes are awarded, so they could interact with each other," said Keinan.

FROM THE reactions of the participants, Keinan's experiment was very successful.

The conference brought together well-known thinkers such as Prof. Benoit Mandelbrot (the father of fractal theory); Prof. Sir James Black (a pharmacologist whose work led to the development of two beta blockers for hypertension and Cimetidine for ulcers); Prof. Jozef Schell (a leader in the field of genetic engineering in plants); Dr. Oleh Hornykiewicz (whose work on dopamine led to the development of Levodopa for Parkinson's patients); and Dr. Carl Djerassi (the developer of the birth control pill). Others not mentioned here were no less prominent.

Mandelbrot, a Jew born 73 years ago in Warsaw, studied at the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris and was on the staff of the city's National Science Research Center for eight years.

He spent 35 years as a senior researcher at IBM's Watson Research Center in New York. Today he teaches mathematical sciences at Yale University.

His modest demeanor belies the incredible impact his fractal theories have had on a wide variety of fields, from mathematics and computers to chaos theory and art. They can be applied to psycholo-



Dr. Carl Djerassi: developer of the birth control pill



Prof. Benoit Mandelbrot: created fractal theory (Israel Sci)

gy, heartbeats, classical music, even the stock market.

A search on just one Internet search engine produced over 18,000 mentions of Mandelbrot, and nearly 10,000 references to fractals. Mandelbrot coined the word in 1975 to describe shapes that are "self-similar" - that is, shapes that look the same at different magnifications.

To create a fractal, you start with a simple shape and duplicate it successively according to a set of fixed rules. Strangely enough, this simple formula can create many highly complex structures, some of which have a striking resemblance to objects that exist in the real world.

Graphics designers use fractals to generate images of mountainous landscapes, flowers and coastlines, and many of the computer-generated images that appear in science fiction films use fractals.

In fact, one of Mandelbrot's former students used this knowledge to produce special effects for the

Fractal theory has had an incredible and varied impact: One of Mandelbrot's former students used it to produce special effects for the film 'Titanic'

film *Titanic*.

Mandelbrot, who received his Wolf Prize in 1993 and has been here several times before, suggested that mountains, clouds, galaxy clusters and other natural phenomena are fractal in nature.

"Israeli mathematicians are very good, but they are very practical," he says. "He thinks his theories were greatly affected by his life situation."

"I didn't go to school when I was 18 or 19, since I was a refugee. That was a very crucial time in my life, and it made me less rigid. I was never taught to think in a disciplined way, and after World War II, I was uncomfortable with disciplines. So I was able to do things differently."

"With fractals, I helped bring a return of the eye to math and physics, which had become very abstract. I made pictures that can generate new ideas: The eye helps the mind."

Most scientific ideas deal with things that are smooth. But in nature there are plenty of rough surfaces - and before fractals there was no way to measure this roughness, Mandelbrot explains.

"Science gives the impression of coldness, while nature gives the impression of messiness. I prefer the messier parts."

At Yale, Mandelbrot says, he is "old and famous. My students are in economics, geology, computer graphics, applied physics and many other fields. I have good assistants, and when I explain what I want, they help me. I don't spend time on computers myself, but I am a hands-on supervisor."

PROF. Carl Djerassi, a Sephardi Jew born in Vienna, is best known

as the chemist who developed the oral contraceptive pill, and he received the 1978 Wolf Prize for this breakthrough. The eminent scientist has over 1,200 scientific articles and seven books on the chemistry of natural products under his belt.

Now at Stanford University in California, he no longer conducts research but teaches a variety of interdisciplinary courses (such as one on ethical discourse through science). He has also published numerous poems, short stories, "science-in-fiction" novels and an autobiography.

Eager to arouse public interest in science, Djerassi has written his latest novel, *Menachem's Seed*, about intra-cytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI), the technique widely used today to overcome male infertility.

He has dedicated this sexy novel, which is based partly in Israel, to the late Shalheveth Freier, an eminent scientist and first head of Israel's Atomic Energy Commission, whom Djerassi got to know during the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs.

The main fictional character is Dr. Menachem Dvir, an Israeli rendered sterile by his work in Dimona's nuclear plant; a non-Jewish research foundation director "steals his seed" during an affair and becomes pregnant thanks to ICSI.

A play based on the novel will be presented at the Edinburgh Festival in August. Djerassi admits to surprise (and maybe hurt) that no Israeli publisher has expressed interest in issuing the book in Hebrew, despite its very familiar and constant references to Israel and Israelis.

Djerassi, who lives with his third wife (a teacher of literature at Stanford), no longer gets royalties from *The Pill* - today taken by 50 to 80 million women around the world - but he does have shares in the company that manufactures one brand. He regrets the fact that no male contraceptive pill has followed his own.

"But it will never happen," he says. "Men will ask: Will they be unable to father children 30 or 35 years after first taking such a pill? Women, because of their biological state, don't have to consider that. In an increasingly geriatric society, men worry more about impotence than contraception, and that's why there has been so much interest in the Viagra (anti-impotence) pill." (One of Djerassi's previous novels is called *NO*, which stands for nitric oxide, a chemical that relaxes muscles and promotes potency.)

"Scientists speak by preaching," Djerassi says to explain the impetus for his literary career. "I wanted to go back to Platonic discourse, to explain science to the public in a language they could understand."

Among his teaching techniques at Stanford is to present an ethical dilemma or the beginning of a short story, and ask each student to build successfully on it without knowing who wrote the original text.

He has also founded the Djerassi Resident Artists Program in California, which provides studio space and residencies for 70 artists per year; 1,000 writers, musicians, choreographers and painters have passed through the program since its inception.

The 'monstrous' side of US patents

By RICK WEISS

Attention, all inventors considering making a monster: Forget about getting a patent on your creation.

That's the word from Bruce Lehman, commissioner of the US Patent and Trademark Office. Lehman recently announced that he will deny patents on "monsters" and other "immoral" inventions - a seemingly innocuous decision that has nonetheless alarmed some legal scholars, patent attorneys and medical researchers.

Who will be the arbiter of morality and monstrosity for the patent office? Would a new, improved "Saturday night special" handgun or nuclear bomb trigger be a moral invention? Are laboratory rats that have been genetically engineered to have horribly deforming human diseases "monsters"?

These examples already exist and have been granted patents. How unpalatable would a thing have to be before it was deemed unpatentable?

"Once you start making those subjective judgments, there's a real danger that they're going to be made in an arbitrary, capricious and inconsistent manner," said Patrick Coyne, the Washington patent attorney whose recent and controversial patent application prompted Lehman's comments.

Coyne helped New York Medical College bio-

logist Stuart Newman apply for a patent on a method for making research creatures that would be about half human and half animal.

Such hybrids, not yet made, could serve many useful purposes in medical and biological research.

But Newman and Washington-based biotech gadfly Jeremy Rifkin, who together submitted the claim, have no intention of actually carrying out their proposal.

Rather, they want to draw critical attention to current US policy on patenting life, which allows private ownership of human genes, cells, tissues, laboratory-grown animals and novel mixtures thereof.

What better way to drive home their concerns, they reckoned, than by applying for a patent on a creature that takes current patenting practices to an extreme?

When news of the application broke last month, Lehman sought to assure the public that animal-human hybrids would not be patentable.

Lehman argued that US patent law allows him to deny patents for inventions that do not meet certain unspecified "public policy and morality" criteria.

But those comments raised concerns in researchers, worried that some of their gene-altered research animals might be deemed morally questionable, and in attorneys who could not

find a legal basis for Lehman's position.

"This is an exaggerated interpretation of his powers," said patent specialist John Barton of Stanford University School of Law. "The real status of the law is, if the applicant for the patent can make a claim that there is a reasonable way this technology can be used, then a patent cannot be denied on the basis of the fact that there might also be unethical ways the invention can be used."

"How many genes, how many cells, how much biological material must go into another animal to make it a monster?" Rifkin asked.

"What are the criteria Mr. Lehman will use to determine what is morally acceptable or unacceptable in his eyes?"

As another example, Rifkin and Newman, who hope to bring the issue before the US Supreme Court and Congress, point to ongoing work by Johns Hopkins University researcher John Gearhart involving cells taken from aborted human embryos.

Gearhart has applied for patents on the cells, which he hopes will further research on embryo development and may even be induced to grow into body parts - the same purposes Newman has proposed for his animal-human hybrids.

But his patent applications, still pending, did not trigger a public reprimand from Lehman. (The Washington Post)

Fooling those bugs with sun filters



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

Covering hothouses with plastic sheets that filter out ultraviolet rays confuses the enemy - insects that infect plants with viruses and otherwise destroy the produce.

A scientist at the Volcani Institute for Agricultural Research will receive its agriculture award this year for his development of UV-filtration polyethylene sheets.

Dr. Yehezkel Antigonus, of the virology department in Beit Dagan facility's institute for plant protection, based his invention on the fact that insects' behavior is greatly affected by signals from various light wavelengths.

Covering hothouses with UV-filtration sheets causes the insect to "go blind" and handicaps its ability to bore its way into the hothouse. The insects that do enter are less effective in transmitting viral diseases to the plants.

The sheets have been tried successfully in the cultivation of herbs, vegetables and flowers, and have confounded a wide variety of insects that include some of the country's biggest agricultural pests.

Using the special sheets will allow farmers to spray their plants less with pesticides, improving health and the environment, according to Beit Dagan. The plastics industry has also benefited from the development.

DESALINATE!

Water desalination projects should get immediate priority from the government, according to water experts who attended a conference at the Technion recently.

The meeting, which was attended by 180 scientists and other experts who work in the field of water, ended with a unanimous call for the government to take action.

Construction of the first facility must begin immediately if Israel is to have the experience and needed skill to turn sea water into drinking water on a large scale in the early 21st century.

The experts said such an active facility could serve as the basis for research and development that could lead to a practical desalination process that would be economically worthwhile.

In the Sixties and Seventies, Israel was a major center for desalination research, largely



UV-filtration sheets cause insects to 'go blind,' handicapping their ability to bore into hothouses - which means less need for pesticides.

(R. Nowitz)

due to \$400 million in US government investments in the field. But interest declined, and there had been no conferences on desalination here in 15 years.

REAL-TIME MATRICULATION

For the second year in a row, the private Shachar Institute will post answers to all matriculation exams within hours of their being held.

The institute, which offers preparatory courses for bagrut and psychometric exams, uses a team of senior teachers to answer the questions and puts them up immediately on its Web site at <http://www.shachar.co.il>.

The institute says the free service relieves much of the tension among high school pupils waiting for their scores. Its Web site already presents sample questions and even a psychometric test.

An advisory program is also available on the site: users fill in their personal data, including marks in specific subjects, to find out their chances of being accepted by a specific depart-

ment at the university of their choice.

Schedules for matriculation exams are also listed, along with advice on how to register for the psychometric tests.

PC FASHION

Forget laptop computers. In the 21st century, people will think it's the most natural thing in the world to wear their computers.

No longer must people remain tethered to their desks or homes to get information.

With today's smaller electronics, they can carry - or even wear - devices designed to send, receive, record, recall and process data.

"You'll have plenty of computer power and a modest amount of wireless communications, but then the issue is how humans are going to interact with this," said Daniel Siewiorek, who teaches wearable computer design at Carnegie Mellon University, in an interview with the *Hartford Courant*.

"We're in an experimental phase," he said. "Even more than with the desktop computer,

humans are an integral part of this. And with humans, you can never know how they'll react to something until you give it to them."

Gerd Kortuem, of the University of Oregon's wearable computing research group, sees many of today's devices converging into multipurpose appliances.

"People carry a phone and a pager and all this stuff around, but it's not really working as well as it could because they're all in different pieces and not as effective as they might be if they were all together."

Some experts regard wearables as personal devices that could help people with various tasks, such as calling up a map when the wearer is walking in an unfamiliar neighborhood.

Others see them as tools helping individual users or groups of users collaborate on specific tasks: A firefighter, for example, might wear a computing device that senses extreme heat and constantly broadcasts his or her location back to headquarters.

A robot named 'Intelligent' could phase out low-skill human labor

By JANE SANDERS

Robots have been a boon in the automotive and electronics industries for many years, but the food industry - particularly poultry processing - has not embraced this type of flexible automation.

Now researchers at the Georgia Institute of Technology are developing a new breed of robot that will help increase efficiency and competitiveness for the poultry industry.

"One reason for slow implementation is that robotic systems already on the market aren't completely compatible with poultry needs," said J. Craig Wyvill, director of Georgia Tech's agricultural technology research program. "Existing robotic systems tend to be overkill. They're too complex, which makes them expensive to purchase and

expensive to maintain.

"Compounding the problem, the industry needs robots that can withstand the rigors of the food processing environment which typically adds to their cost."

Many jobs in poultry processing consist of handling materials, such as moving products from a conveyor belt to a box or another conveyor belt - areas where robots are ideal substitutes for human hands. Although poultry plants are using simple forms of fixed automation, these machines have very limited capabilities.

"Our goal was to develop a low-cost robot that could handle poultry products with the same speed and dexterity as a human," explained Gary McMurray, a Georgia Tech researcher and a project director for the robotics initiative.

Then the Intelligent Integrated Belt

Manipulator (IIBM) came on the scene. This robot tackles a common food industry task by removing items from a conveyor belt and transferring them into a packing carton for shipping.

Conceived in 1992, IIBM has gone through several redesigns and refinements over the years. The first-generation robot was powered exclusively by pneumatics, attractive because of its low costs and ease of use, but still not accurate enough.

Although poultry processing requires less accuracy than, say, chip insertion in an electronics plant, "an inch was still too much," McMurray noted.

The new IIBM is a hybrid of pneumatics and electro-servo drives.

Two pneumatic axes and two electro-servo axes allow motion in four different directions: up and down, parallel with the conveyor belt, perpendicular across

the conveyor belt, and a 90-degree rotational pivot.

In automotive and electronics industries parts are consistently shaped and easy for robots to handle. Yet in the poultry business, products vary considerably in size and shape, making grasping demands another challenge for the IIBM.

Physical dimensions of the tray pack remain constant, but the poultry pieces inside vary the contours of the package's top by as much as five centimeters, causing weight and center of gravity to shift.

"So the IIBM had to be constructed with some flexibility," added McMurray. The current IIBM prototype has been sent to the factory floor in a ConAgra plant in Gainesville, Georgia. Speed and accuracy will be the main focus of the field test.

Early field test results have been

encouraging. In lab trials, the IIBM's average cycle time was clocked at 2.1 seconds - comparable with a human worker - and the research team has been able to sustain this time in the plant.

More importantly, the robot's pick-up rate has improved significantly. Besides cutting costs, the IIBM is attractive because it is simple both to install and maintain.

To get the IIBM up and running, only a few physical dimensions need to be programmed, like the size of tray packs, the location of packing cartons, and the height of the conveyor belt. In contrast, traditional robotic systems require as many as 300 positions to be programmed individually.

The next step is to enhance the system with a vision system; this would help develop hand/eye coordination for the robot, and allow it to operate by merely

seeing a picture of the product, eliminating the need for task-specific software and programming.

Despite all this progress, robotics is not about to make humans obsolete. Indeed, flexible automation creates a better workplace for humans by upgrading job skill requirements to a higher level.

"The nice thing about this type of automation is that it can eliminate low-skill labor activities which the industry has the greatest difficulty filling on a day-to-day basis," observed McMurray. There's also the issue of safety concerns. Many of these jobs are highly repetitive, putting workers at risk for cumulative trauma disorders such as carpal tunnel syndrome, but automation can reduce injuries.

(Georgia Institute of Technology News Service)

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A 'crazy idea' that happened to be true

By JUDY SEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Once you get 'the Big One,' says Nobel Prize Laureate Prof. Stanley Prusiner, "you never get any more awards."

Well, not quite. Out of the 59 honors and awards that this outstanding neurologist has received since his Phi Beta Kappa in 1963, he was awarded five more after his 1997 Nobel Prize for medicine, including the Franklin Institute Gold Medal, the Swedish Medical Society's Jubilee Medal and an honorary doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania, where he previously received his BA and MD degrees.

Having received the \$1 million Nobel for his discovery of an entirely new class of pathogens that replicate without nucleic acid and cause a number of degenerative neurological diseases, perhaps he can win another Nobel for developing a cure for them.

Prusiner, who has many admirers and a number of scientific colleagues in Israel, was here recently to attend a convention of former recipients of the Wolf Prize, which he received in 1996.

The Iowa-born researcher,

whose 56th birthday is tomorrow, has a self-deprecating sense of humor and a shock of white hair that gives him a professorial look. Having grown up in Cincinnati, Prusiner moved to Philadelphia for his undergraduate and medical education, and then settled in San Francisco, where since 1969 he has been at the prestigious University of California.

Until he came along, it was believed that diseases could be transmitted solely by viruses and bacteria. But through his work a new field of research was created around prions, which he discovered and named.

These protein particles cause scrapie – an infectious disease in sheep. Feeding British cows with inadequately processed sheep brains caused panic about mad cow disease, which resulted in the slaughtering of millions of British cattle.

Prions are also responsible for kuru disease (which was diagnosed, until the Fifties, among Papua-New Guinea cannibals who ritually ate the brains of their deceased relatives) and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) – which can appear sporadically by a somatic mutation or be passed

down from generation to generation through a genetic defect, which is more common in Jews of Libyan and Tunisian origin than among the public at large.

FOR DECADES, the prevailing belief among scientists was that scrapie, a transmissible disease of the central nervous system, was caused by a slow-acting virus. Prusiner proposed what many considered to be a heretical idea – that protein particles could be an infectious pathogen and multiply even without having nucleic acid.

"As it happens, the feeding of infected sheep brains to British cows was an indirect result of the Arab oil embargo. The cost of petroleum rose drastically, and the Thatcher government lowered the standards of regulations on heating animal food. The lower temperatures allowed the prions to survive and be passed on from infected sheep to the cows."

Prusiner wanted to purify scrapie components in the brains of infected sheep and characterize them. After purifying prions from the brain, he discovered that they were composed of a single protein which he called prion protein, or PrP.

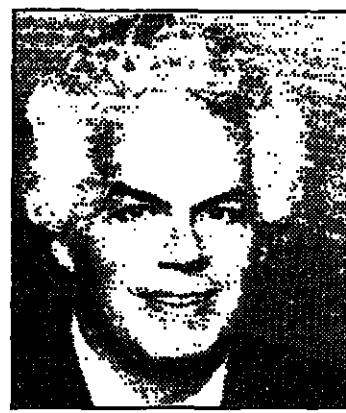
He found that a fragment of the protein polymerizes into amyloid, and then demonstrated that amyloid plaques in the brains of animals and humans dying of prion diseases are composed of PrP.

This was the first time that cerebral amyloid – which is also found in the brains of Alzheimer's disease victims – was shown to be the cause of a disease of the central nervous system.

"Many crazy ideas are proposed by scientists, but only a few seemingly outlandish ones turn out to be true. It's a healthy response, and the more unusual it is, the more extreme the skepticism."

Colleagues pressed me, asking if I did this or that during my experiments. Some made really nasty remarks – but I prefer not to remember them."

During his years of experiments on the proteins, Prusiner was "very confident about the data. We did it in different ways of looking for nucleic acids, using five independent procedures. You're always concerned that there is a misinterpretation of data, some trivial explanation for the phenomena. There were many times when we thought it would be either a very important discovery



Prusiner: Confident about data

– or a big bust."

Finally, in 1989, the idea of prions became almost universally accepted. Molecular genetic experiments that couldn't have been performed before proved that Prusiner and his team were right.

A NUMBER of Israelis played very important roles in his work, says Prusiner. They include Ruth Gavizon, Albert Tarabulus and Ze'ev Miner of the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School in Jerusalem.

"Ruth, for example, came to my

lab in 1987 and did a seminal series of experiments on aggregates of prion particles," he said.

Prusiner and his colleagues then discovered that the PrP that caused scrapie was derived from normal cellular PrP that was encoded by a chromosomal gene found in all animals they examined.

They also found that the human disease CJD is caused by mutations in the PrP gene – thus showing how a disease can be both inherited and infectious – an unprecedented concept in the study of disease pathogenesis.

In the genetic forms of the disease, the mutation lowers the energy barrier for conversion of normal PrP into the infectious form.

There is no cure for prion diseases, but "we're working on it. We haven't defined it physically yet – let's call it Protein X."

"We looking at the interaction of normal PrP and will try to design a drug, with help from Dr. Fred Cohen, a colleague of ours at the University of California at San Francisco. We are very hopeful, and we've made real progress. Fred thinks a cure will take 10 years, but I believe it'll take only five."

If Prusiner and his fellow sci-

tists succeed, they will be able to stop prion diseases.

"It wouldn't be a vaccine, but a small molecule that would cross the blood-brain barrier. We could give it to people with early symptoms, and then the body would clear it up, maybe reverse the symptoms."

"Despite the panic over British beef, CJD is not a major health problem – it occurs in one person per million."

But the work on a cure could also produce a blueprint for treating degenerative neurological diseases such as Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease).

An honored guest (along with a handful of other Nobel laureates) at the recent Wolf Prize conference, Prusiner said he was very pleased by the gathering. He has been here several times with his wife, Sandy, and their two daughters, aged 19 and 12.

"It was so intense. Bringing 40 Wolf Prize winners together was a great idea. And I was happy to celebrate Israel's jubilee in person."

"This country is a miracle. Few people dreamed it would mature the way it has, despite all the political problems that put it on the front pages."

The ongoing quest for synthetic blood

By JAMIE TALAN

Human blood is the miraculous medium that ferries life-sustaining oxygen and nutrients throughout the body and transports carbon dioxide and other cell wastes out.

Not even the best minds in hematology have been able to design a liquid that can do a better job of delivering oxygen than the red blood cell can. But this reality hasn't stopped the search for the perfect blood substitute. Such a synthetic product would ease donor-blood shortages, eliminate the need to match blood types and ensure that donated blood is free of such harmful viruses as HIV.

A handful of companies are in the final stages of human testing of artificial blood products, and the US Food and Drug Administration is preparing a consensus conference to be held soon to discuss their safety and efficacy. In the meantime, dozens of people in clinical trials may be allowing their veins to be filled with solutions purified from cow's blood or genetically altered human blood cells.

These products are generally called blood substitutes because they deliver oxygen throughout the body via plasma. Some scientists believe it may be possible to develop a product that could deliver oxygen more rapidly and efficiently than even the unaltered red blood cell.

For now, these blood products are showing unique properties that could allow their use in lieu of fresh donor blood.

The most important advantage is that they could be stored in the emergency room to provide an immediate supply of oxygen from the lungs to the tissues.

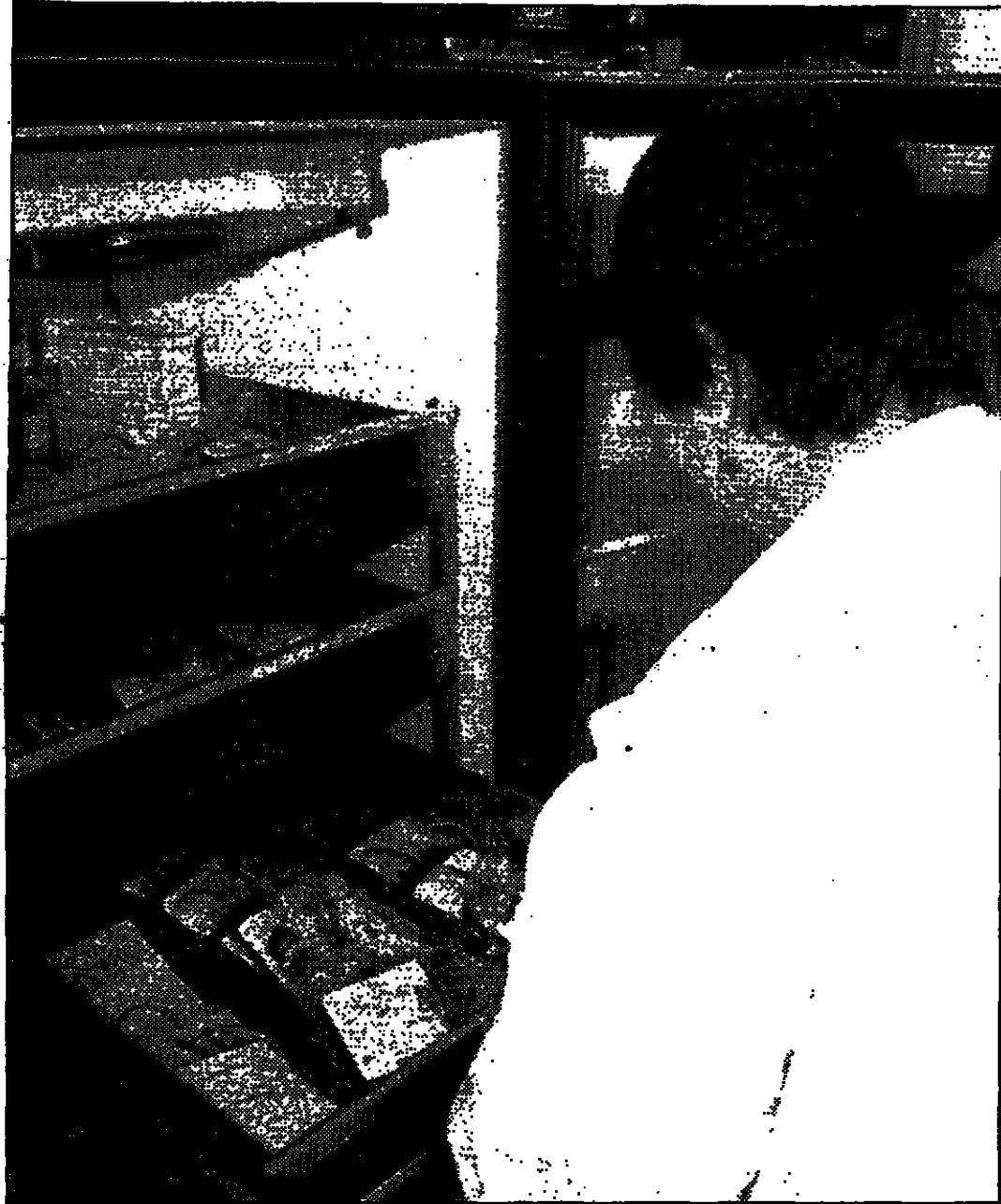
Also, there would be no need to type the blood because there would be no immune antibodies to worry about.

"The public is panicked about blood because of AIDS," said Dr. Joseph Fratantoni, a former FDA investigator who now works for the consulting firm C.L. Macintosh Co. in Rockville, Maryland.

But despite the intensity of the search for blood replacement, the results are emerging rather slowly. Even now, Fratantoni can't say whether there will be a federally approved blood replacement.

IN MARCH, Baxter Healthcare Corp. of Deerfield, Illinois, ended a trauma-patient study after a review of the first 100 participants showed that people given the artificial blood product HemAssist died at a greater rate than those who did not receive it.

About 40 percent of the severely injured patients given HemAssist, a blood substitute modified from human red cells, died.



Not even the best minds in hematology have been able to design a liquid that can do a better job of delivering oxygen than the red blood cell – but they're trying hard. (Brian Hendler)

"This was really unforeseen," said Dr. Matthew Wall, director of Houston's Ben Taub Hospital's trauma center, where up to 40 patients were to participate this year.

"This may simply be a statistical problem in a very select group of patients who already start with a high mortality, and the mortality may be unrelated to the drug."

Studies of HemAssist in elective-surgery patients and severely injured patients in Europe are continuing because no abnormal mortality rates have been detected in those trials.

Fratantoni and others agree that analyzing the efficacy of artificial substances is difficult.

"We don't even know how red blood cells work," Fratantoni said. "So how do you measure benefit?"

The products now being designed circulate red blood cells

for 120 days, almost three times longer than donated blood, said Dr. Thomas Chang at Canada's McGill University.

He wants to make a synthetic red blood cell rather than just chemically manipulate hemoglobin. In the laboratory, he takes hemoglobin and enzymes from the red blood cells, removes the membrane and wraps the material in an artificial coat. The packaging is about 16 times smaller than a red blood cell.

Biopure, a Cambridge, Massachusetts company, has received FDA approval for Oxyglobin, the first blood substitute to treat anemia in animals.

Oxyglobin solution is now available to veterinarians for use in emergency situations, and the company has a similar "oxygen therapeutic," purified from the blood of cows, undergoing

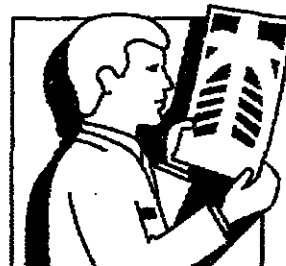
advanced clinical trials in humans. Dr. Edward Jacobs, a senior vice president of medical affairs at Biopure, and a surgeon at Massachusetts General Hospital, developed the concept for Oxyglobin and designed both the animal and human studies necessary to match federal guidelines for safety and efficacy.

Oxyglobin is more than just a blood substitute, Jacobs said. "This will be a very, very big change in how we view the circulatory system. We could use this product to improve oxygen uptake in the lungs, and keep people with lung failure from having to go on a ventilator."

Ultimately, Jacobs envisions these blood substitutes being used on patients with blood clots, cancer, sepsis, damaged blood vessels and coronary artery problems. (Newsday)

Spike those high heels... or else

Health Scan



By Post Health Reporter

Here's another reason for women to eschew high-heeled shoes. Besides the risk of falling down or spraining an ankle: a US study suggests that wearing spike heels significantly increases the risk of developing arthritis of the knee.

An article in *The Lancet* by Dr. Casey Kerrigan and colleagues from Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital and Harvard Medical School described a study done with 20 healthy women with an average age of 36.

They were asked to walk along a special platform in bare feet and then in shoes with six-cm.-high heels. Sensors under the platform and cameras recording the movement of their ankle and knee joints made it possible to measure strain on the joints.

The researchers found that when the women walked in high heels, there was greater strain between the kneecap and the thighbone and in the inner side of the knee joint than when going barefoot. The latter finding is of particular interest, as osteoarthritis is more common on the inner than the outer side of the knee.

The researchers concluded that "the possibility that wearing high-heeled shoes contributes to osteoarthritis of the knee has not been suggested to date. Our findings suggest that further investigations are needed to evaluate a causal relationship."

MID-LIFE CONFUSION

Gynecologists let menopausal women decide whether they will undergo hormone-replacement therapy (HRT). But a representative sample of middle-aged women conducted by the Israel Women's Lobby has found that patients are frequently not presented with the facts about the pros and cons of HRT.

According to the poll, 74 percent of women who consulted their doctors about hormone therapy did not receive "any explanation" about the possible complications of the treatment (in pill, patch or skin-implant form), including a reported higher risk of breast cancer. The benefits of HRT, including a reduced risk of cardiovascular disease and osteoporosis, were stressed by their doctors.

Nevertheless, 84% of the women – who live in Jerusalem, Beit Shemesh, Nes Ziona, Ramat Aviv and Be'er Tuvia –



Fashionable, yes – but they could increase the risk of developing arthritis of the knee.

expressed satisfaction with their gynecologists.

The survey, released by IWN, was conducted by Dr. Gila Sidi, director of the Edna Center for menopausal women, and Raya Steinberg, head of the Women's Health Center in Ramat Aviv. They aimed at investigating the views of women in mid-life about the physiological, social and emotional aspects of menopause.

Sidi and Steinberg said the general picture that emerged was of women who lacked a "general understanding" of this phase in their life. Many were angry at the stereotype of menopausal women as "nervous, anxious, suffering from hot flashes and no longer attractive." They complained about the "double standard" with which women of this age were treated, as compared to men.

The researchers concluded that special clinics for menopausal women could be helpful, but that in their present format they focus on biological and medical aspects of mid-life and not on its social and psychological implications.

Women of this age require more awareness of themselves and need to overcome barriers on the path to interesting and fruitful lives that are essentially different from the first half of life, they stressed. "Perhaps it's not the job of the medical system at all but of the various women's movements to enter the picture and build information programs for this group. Interest in menopause will only increase with the arrival of many baby boomers into the second half of their lives."

ANOTHER MS DRUG

The Health Ministry has licensed a fourth drug against relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis for marketing. Rebif, produced by Ares Sero, was originally developed by Prof. Michel Revel of the Weizmann

Institute in Rehovot.

A genetically engineered form of interferon-beta, Rebif joins another Israeli-developed drug, Copaxone, along with betaseron (non-genetically engineered) and Avonex.

All the drugs, which are injected by the patient at home, reduce the severity and number of neurological attacks. The Swiss firm Ares Sero claims its drug has been shown "more effective" than the others (which is disputed by Teva, which makes Copaxone). The active ingredient is produced by Interpharm, an Israeli pharmaceutical company.

There are some 5,000 MS patients here, but not all have the relapsing-remitting form (in which attacks suddenly occur and then fade away, leaving neurological deficits). Interpharm hopes to persuade doctors to switch suitable patients from other drugs to Rebif.

The drug has not yet been included in the basket of services the health funds must provide their members, but a representative of Ares Sero in Israel said that the drug will not add costs, since those patients who have the potential to be helped are already getting another drug.

STARS FOR MDA

Rotary Club volunteers and Magen David Adom have launched a three-month campaign to collect Israeli "stars" for purchasing advanced resuscitation equipment for MDA ambulances.

The most important device is the Life Pack 300 semi-automatic defibrillator, used to resuscitate patients whose heart is beating irregularly. The device diagnoses the problem and delivers a suitable electric shock to restore normal heartbeat. Isracard holders who want to donate stars (accumulated along with their purchases) should call (02) 765-1522.

For some women, Viagra may promise a second honeymoon

By MAGGIE FOX

WASHINGTON – Viagra, the anti-impotence drug, is not driving only men crazy: Preliminary reports show it can help women's sex lives too.

"It's really exciting," said Robin Lyles, one of a handful of Americans enrolled in a clinical trial testing the blockbuster impotence drug in women. "I can't describe how it makes me feel," added Lyles, who has been married for only two years.

The drug's effects on men who have erectile dysfunction has been trumpeted on front pages and the TV news around the world. By its third week on the market, more than 200,000 new prescriptions had been sold.

The drug, made by Pfizer Inc., hasn't

yet been approved for use by women, but many doctors – including University of Maryland urologist Dr. Jennifer Berman – think it should be. She is starting clinical trials in a small group of women and says it is already having spectacular results.

Urologists say there is no physiological reason why women should not respond to the drug. It works as an enhancer of arousal, getting blood to the penis when a man is sexually stimulated and allowing it to stay there. The result is an erection in men who have been unable to have one, usually for medical reasons.

The female sexual organs work in the same way. Blood must get to the area and stay there to stimulate the lubrication and other responses needed for a

woman to enjoy sex.

Berman has given the drug to three women, two who had hysterectomies and one past menopause. Such women often say that sex is unpleasant and unsatisfying.

But Viagra helped. Berman described another patient who had a hysterectomy five years ago.

"She had been bounced around from gynecologist to urologist to psychologist, told it was in her head. She bought books and videotapes and did the whole relaxation thing. It was putting a significant damper on her relationship with her husband. He was disappointed, she did not fake it, and he knew."

The woman finally came to Berman, whose school had taken part in the clinical trials of Viagra in men.

"Because I heard this same story from so many women following a hysterectomy, I decided to give her the medication," Berman said. The results were better than good.

"She had an unbelievable response. She said it was like it used to be, maybe even better."

Berman, who has a grant from the American Foundation for Urological Diseases to study the physiology of the female sexual response, is delighted to get money for such a project.

"The fact that the grant was funded by this group, which is a very conservative, academic group, when I was competing against people trying to cure prostate cancer, is kind of revolutionary within itself," she said.

Testing will take place only in

women who cannot have children, because the drug's effects on a developing fetus are not known.

Experts estimate that 30 million American men suffer from erectile dysfunction. There are no official estimates on non-organic women, but many doctors suspect the numbers are about the same.

Berman, who will do her study at Boston University, will also test other drugs in the women, including Vasomax, a pill made by Zonagen and licensed to Schering-Plough. Its active ingredient, phenolamine, also dilates blood vessels, and the company is expected to seek FDA approval this year.

"Nobody has addressed this woman's problem," Berman said. "Most uro-

gists and gynecologists have traditionally been men. The questions that were asked were, 'Are you able to have intercourse and does it hurt?' and if those things were OK they didn't press any more." Research was not even allowed.

Lyles hopes the publicity will foster open discussion so more women can be helped.

"I think there's quite a few women, and I think they never would be willing to say anything because that's such a taboo area and you don't talk about it like I've been doing," she said. "Society wants to think, 'OK, this is a man's problem. Women don't have those problems.' But it's simply not true."

(Reuters)

ISRAELI SHARES
ABROAD

LAST CHANGE

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Lower technology
stocks pull Dow down

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Stocks fell in light trading on Friday ahead of the holiday weekend as technology stocks took a hit on worries about earnings.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 17.93 points, or 0.20 percent, to 9,114.41, while the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index fell 5.99 to 1,505.3, a decline of 0.9%.

Financial markets are closed tomorrow for the US Memorial Day holiday. Many investors had moved to the sidelines before Friday's quiet session.

"Generally speaking it's a market without messages," said Hugh Johnson, chief investment officer at First Albany. "But in the computer stocks, there are growing worries about the earnings picture."

In the broader market, declining issues led advances, 1,777 to 1,058, on volume of 443.6 million shares, the second-lowest this year. For the week, the Dow rose 18.44 points.

Investors are worried that Asia's economic problems, coupled with stiff price competition in the industry, will hurt profits at US computer makers and other high-tech companies.

With the second quarter reporting season ahead, some companies are already starting to announce that profits may disappoint Wall Street. Some opening shots have already been fired.

"They're taking their profits and getting out before the bombs hit," said Guy Truicko, equity portfolio manager at Unity Management, referring to investors.

Worries about tech earnings started with circuit maker Analogic Devices on Wednesday, and deepened with Manugistics Group Inc. and Smart Modular Technologies Inc. Late on Thursday, Manugistics said it would post a loss in the latest quarter but blamed it on internal issues. Manugistics tumbled about 40% to close at 29.14, off 18.58.

Brokerage Morgan Stanley Dean Witter downgraded Smart Modular, saying the outlook is uncertain due to sluggish demand from computer

STOCKS

Dow Jones 9114.41 -0.20%

FTSE 5955.5 -0.34%

Nikkei 15,801.7 -0.28%

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gain, barely holding record gains made in the midweek before the Thursday Ascension day holiday. The CAC-40 index closed at 4049.78, up 1.86 points, or 0.05%, up 59.55 from last Friday.

Dutch shares backtracked from a fresh all-time peak, closing little changed as a weaker dollar and soft Wall Street chipped away at sentiment. The AEX index closed at 1194.41, up 0.21 points, or 0.02%, up 25.64 since last Friday.

The Milan bourse ended firmer, but off session highs in thin volume trade ahead of the weekend and tomorrow's market holiday in London. The banking sector put in a strong performance. The All Share Mibtel index closed at 24318, up 160 points, or 0.66%.

This was up 340 from last week. Swiss shares closed higher as derivative-linked buying, special situations and a generally positive environment for equities supported the Swiss market. The Swiss market index closed at 7542.7, up 46.9 points, or 0.63%, a gain of 23.3 on the week.

Asia

Hong Kong stocks drifted to a lower close as investors sat on their hands, awaiting results from a government land tender and with little fresh news to trade on, brokers said. The Hang Seng index closed at 9555.98, down 114.47 points, or 1.18%, up 17.59 on the week.

The Australian market ambled to a lower close with few investors interested ahead of holiday weekends in the US and Europe. The All Ordinaries index closed at 2725.9, down 7.6 points, or 0.28%, down 39.9 from last Friday.

Tokyo stocks finished slightly lower, as participants took profits after Indonesian President Suharto's resignation sparked a rally the previous day. The 225-share Nikkei average closed at 15801.65, down 43.60 points, or 0.28%, up 558.79 since last Friday.

Europe

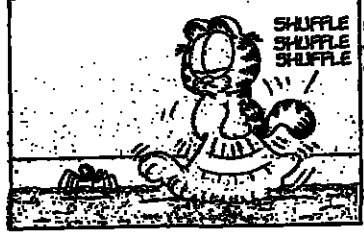
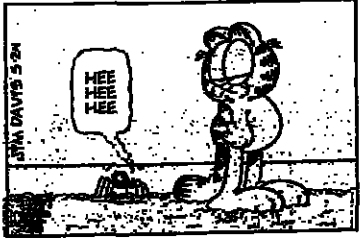
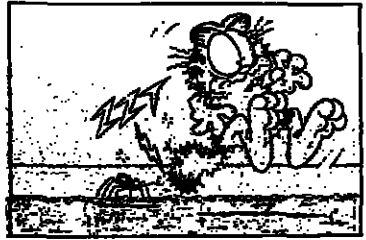
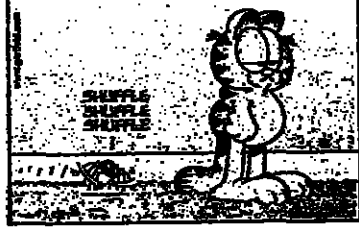
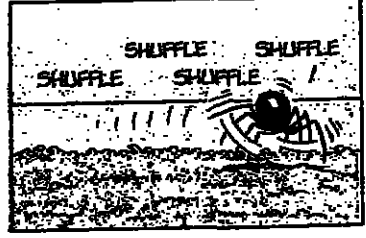
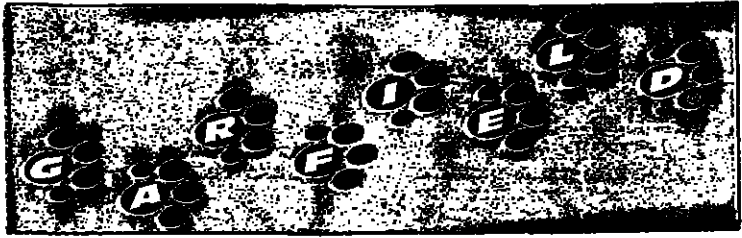
The UK's FTSE 100 index bounced in the closing minutes of trade to end near the day's best levels following a subdued pre-holiday session. The FTSE 100 closed at 5955.5, up 20.0 points, or 0.34%. This was up 37.8 on the week.

The CAC-40 index closed the May account with a razor-thin

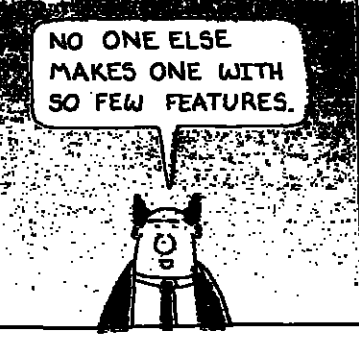
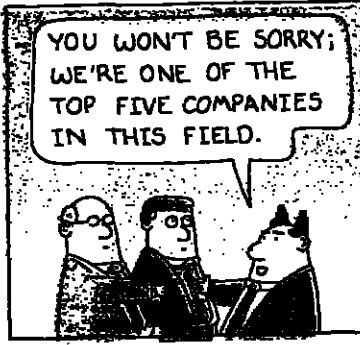
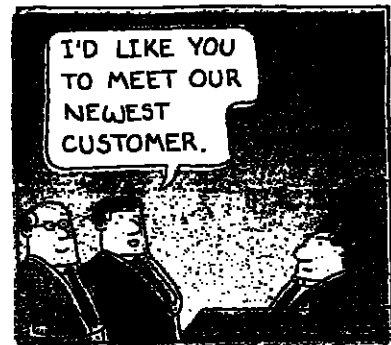
Dollar closes
up against yen

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The dollar ended Friday's shortened trading session higher against the Japanese yen and German mark as speculation the Bank of Japan may ease credit overshadowed talk that US interest rates may soon rise.

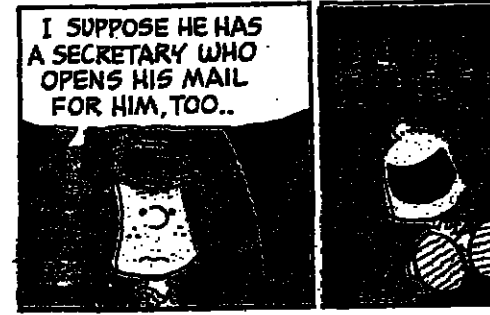
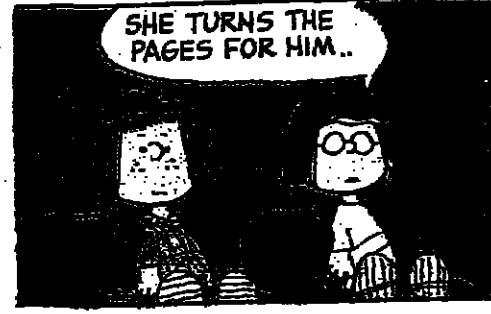
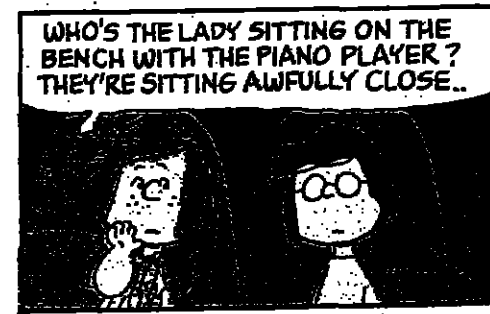
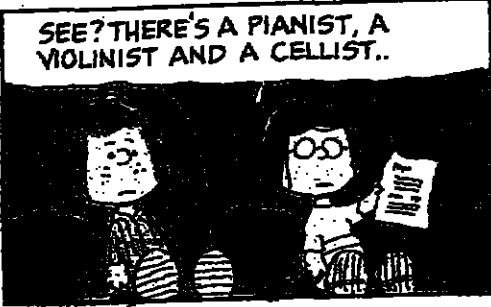
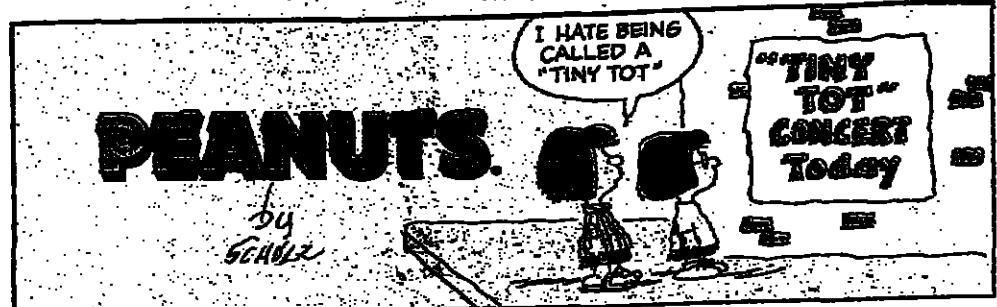
The bulk of trading occurred overnight, shortly after the Bank of Japan released the minutes of its April 9 meeting that suggested a further rate cut may be warranted.



DILBERT

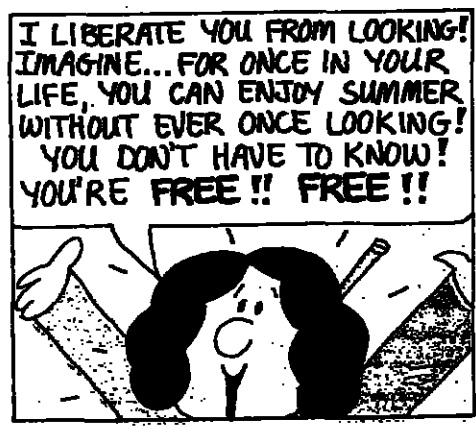
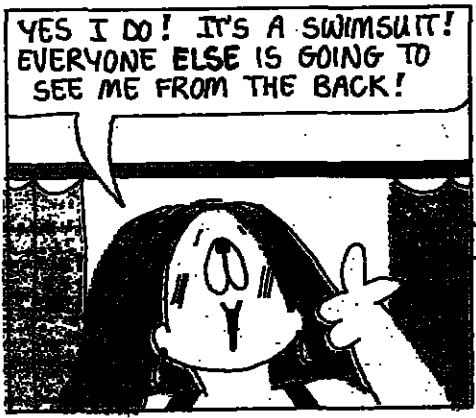
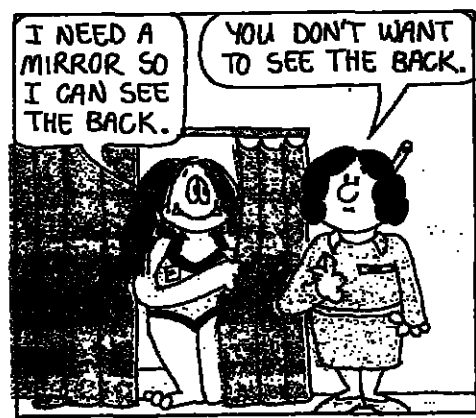


BY SCOTT ADAMS

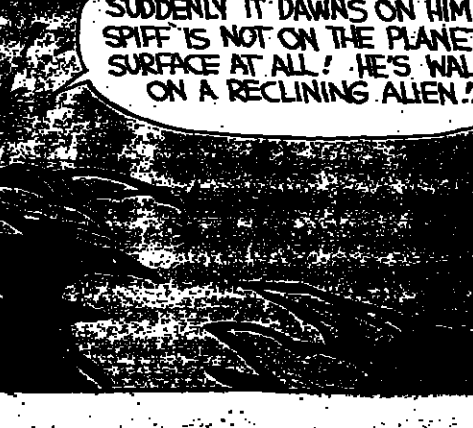
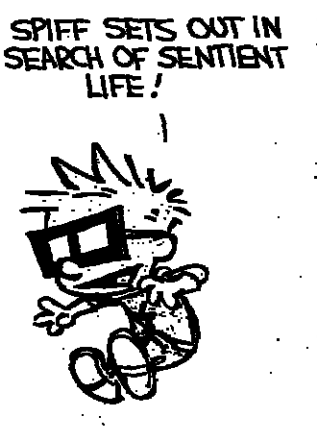
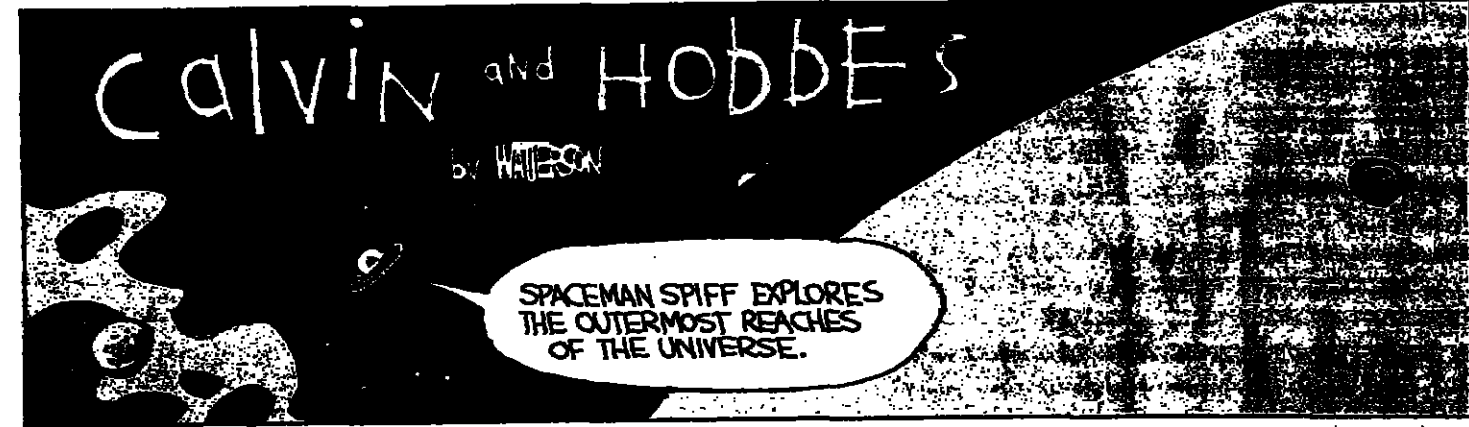
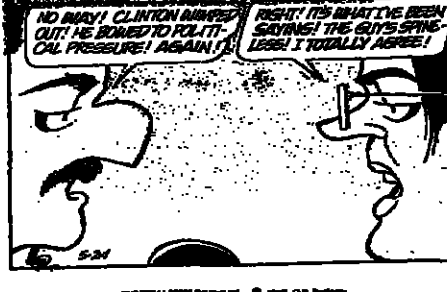


BY CATHY GUISEWITE

CATHY



Doonesbury
G.B. TRUDEAU



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inspires
Mets

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Sports Editors

Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

Cullinan,
Rhodes star
in SA win

MANCHESTER (Reuters) — Brilliant fielding led by Jonty Rhodes and remarkable bowling by part-timer Daryll Cullinan inspired South Africa as they beat England by 32 runs in the second one-day match at Old Trafford yesterday to secure the series.

South Africa scored 226 for nine in their 50 overs and dismissed England for 194 with 20 deliveries left to take a 2-0 winning lead ahead of the third and final match at Headingley today.

Cullinan, having bowled just 84 balls in 94 previous one-day internationals, was introduced in the 30th over of England's innings and captured two for 30 in nine consecutive overs as the home side lost their last six wickets for 51.

England recovered from 90 for four to 143 for four when Rhodes changed the course of the innings just as he had done in his team's three-wicket win in the first game at The Oval on Thursday.

A devastating pick-up and return from mid-wicket was too quick for Alec Stewart and the England Test captain was run out for a top score of 52 from 75 balls with five boundaries.

One-day captain Adam Hoolioke made a valiant effort to keep his team in the match but when Shaun Pollock trapped him lbw for 46 from 63 balls, England's bits-and-pieces all rounders were never able to match South Africa's experience in tense situations.

Cullinan bowled Mark Ealham through a wild leg-side heave and then had Matthew Flenning spectacularly caught at deep mid-wicket by Jacques Kallis before Allan Donald wrapped the innings up to finish with three 32 from 8.4 overs.



TOUGH GOING — England's Paul Scholes is tackled by Saudi 'keeper Mohammed Al Daye in the 0-0 draw at Wembley yesterday. (Reuters)

Saudis give England sorry send-off

By MITCH PHILLIPS

LONDON (Reuters) — England were handed a reminder of just what a difficult task they face in the World Cup finals when they were held to a goalless home draw by fellow finalists Saudi Arabia at Wembley Stadium yesterday.

In their last home friendly before the tournament, England, rated as one of the favorites to reach the last four, played plenty of neat football but were often frustrated by the well-drilled visiting defence.

And they could easily have lost the game as tricky Saudi striker Sami Al-Jaber proved a constant thorn and Ibrahim Sweid Al-Shahrani, with the last kick of the match, fired wide with the goal gaping.

England started with confidence, neat inter-play creating openings for Andy Hinchcliffe, who headed over the bar, and Paul Scholes, whose shot was beaten out by Mohammed Al-Daye.

Gareth Southgate, in a rare foray forward, was denied by Al-Daye's feet and the keeper used the same technique to foil Teddy Sheringham from close range in the 28th minute when the Manchester United man should have scored.

But, as the visitors settled, they began to display the fast footwork and skills which have made

them a major force in Asian soccer.

Al-Jaber, fast and direct, twice forced David Seaman into sharp saves as England's flat back four were stretched.

Sayed Al-Owairan, scorer of a memorable individual goal against Belgium in the 1994 World Cup, almost added another when he sidefooted inches wide after good work on the left by Hussein Solaimani.

England were still getting all the space they wanted but their passing, though nice to watch, lacked penetration.

They began the second half as they had the first, on the attack, and Alan Shearer headed straight at the goalkeeper and Scholes shot over after a nice one-two with his captain.

But 10 minutes into the half the 63,733 Wembley crowd showed their frustration with a loud and long demand for the introduction of Paul Gascoigne.

They got their wish on the hour as the troubled midfielder came on along with Ian Wright for Sheringham and the ineffective David Beckham.

Gascoigne entered to a thunderous roar but was unable to get a grip on the game that was slipping away from England.

More good work by Al-Jaber presented Al-

Owairan with a close-range chance but Hinchcliffe scrambled it clear.

Another double substitution with 10 minutes left brought Les Ferdinand and Philip Neville into the fray and England pressed forward searching for the elusive goal.

Al-Daye's legs came into play again to foil Wright and Gascoigne shot over but it was the visitors who came closest to settling it in injury time.

Yet another superb run by Al-Jaber set up Al-Shahrani blasted wide with history beckoning.

England now go to Morocco where they will play the hosts and Belgium before travelling to France.

England coach Glenn Hoddle refused to be downhearted, explaining many of the team's problems as a result of having "a friendly head on".

"I was disappointed with the result but we made enough chances to have buried them but we didn't take those chances," Hoddle said. "Clearly we've still got a long way to go."

Saudi Arabia, who face France, Denmark and South Africa, in the World Cup, will travel with their already-high confidence lifted further and coach Carlos Alberto Pereira, a World Cup-winning coach with Brazil, was delighted.

"England had chances but so did we," he said. "It was a very big achievement."

Rios on form for French Open

ST. POLTEN, Austria (Reuters) — Marcelo Rios thrashed American Vince Spadea 6-2 6-0 yesterday for his fifth tournament win of the year and then said he felt ready for next week's French Open.

Chile's former world No. 1 defied windy conditions to beat Spadea in a 50-minute St. Polten Grand Prix final on the slow clay.

"I played well the whole week and was able to build up my confidence. I feel really good going into the French Open," said Rios, who has not lost a set in his last 10 matches.

The triumph was the Chilean's second in St. Polten Grand Prix. He won there in 1996.

Rios admitted his elbow injury was still bothering him, but said the recovery had been good and had not

affected his game this week.

Rios, who has now won 10 ATP Tour events, quickly found his form against the world No. 62 and broke service twice in the fifth and seventh games of the first set. The match then turned into a one-man show with Spadea totally outclassed in the second set.

No. 3 seed Patti Schnyder of Switzerland won the women's \$160,000 Madrid Open yesterday with a 3-6, 6-4, 6-0 triumph over No. 2 seed Dominique van Roost of Belgium.

Irena Spirlea of Romania, the No. 2 seed, won the \$200,000 Strasbourg WTA tournament when she beat home player Julie Halard-Decugis 7-6(7/5) 6-3 in yesterday's final.

Where to eat in Israel

JERUSALEM

ANGELO RISTORANTE ITALIANO — Frommer's 1997 Guide says, "The most superb pasta in the country." Also fresh fish & Roman specialties. Kosher Dairy. Call owners Angelo Di Sagni / Lori Rosenkrantz for reservations. 9 Horkanos St. Tel. 02-623 6095.

BIRD OF PARADISE (Old City) — Fresh home made food - Dairy and vegetarian dishes enhanced by a masterful use of herbs and spices. Luncheon specials. Evening entertainment. Have reviews. Kosher. 7 Horkanos St. Tel. 02-624 4331.

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MARVAD HAKSAMIN ORIENTAL RESTAURANT — Mid-Eastern and Yemenite food. Kosher/meat Open for lunch & dinner till 11 p.m.; Sun-Thurs., Fri. till 3 p.m., 18 King David St. (next to Carvel). Tel. 02-625 4470.

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Jazz up 3-0
over Lakers

INGLEWOOD, Ca. (AP) — Home did nothing to ease the Los Angeles Lakers' frustration against Utah in the Western Conference finals.

Now they're just a game away from an embarrassing sweep at the hands of the cool, efficient Jazz.

Shaquille O'Neal powered his way to 39 points and 15 rebounds but got little help from his teammates Friday night in a 109-98 loss that put Utah up 3-0 in the best-of-7 series.

The Jazz can complete their first sweep of a seven-game series in franchise history with a victory today. No team has ever come back from a 3-0 deficit to win a playoff series.

The Indiana Pacers, 2-0 down against the Chicago Bulls, were hosting Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals last night.

Shandon Anderson, the last in a series of heroes off the bench for the Jazz, scored nine points in a three-minute span of the fourth quarter. He finished with 13 points, 11 in the fourth quarter. Another reserve, Chris Morris, scored 15 for Utah.

With all the talk of the depth and talent of the Lakers, the Utah bench outscored its Los Angeles counter-

parts 46-22.

Bryon Russell, who didn't miss a field goal in six attempts, hit a 3-pointer with 1:37 left to put the Jazz up 99-92, and the disbelieving Lakers fans screamed toward the exits.

Karl Malone, who was 9-of-22 from the field, scored 22 of his 26 points in the second half and grabbed 10 rebounds. Russell added 17 points.

While O'Neal did everything he could to get the Lakers back in the series, Eddie Jones, Nick Van Exel and the other Los Angeles shooters were missing in action most of the night. Jones was 1-for-10 in the first half and 6-for-19 for the game. Van Exel was 2-for-13.

Still, the Lakers were down only 86-85 on O'Neal's stuff of his own rebound with 6:21 to play. But Anderson hit a 16-footer. Russell scored on a drive and Anderson converted a three-point play in an 8-2 run that put the Jazz up 94-87 with 4:35 remaining.

A free throw by O'Neal and O'Neal's rebound basket narrowed the lead to 96-92, then Russell buried the Lakers for good with his 3-pointer.

Sampras faces tricky first
round vs Martin in Paris

PARIS (Reuters) — World No. 1 Pete Sampras faces a tricky first round match against Todd Martin in the French Open but, if victorious,

years ago, is expected to face Spaniard Felix Mantilla in the round of 16 if the draw goes to plan.

Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman, who

Smashnova is lone
Israeli at Roland Garros

Anna Smashnova, currently

enjoying a successful spell in her tennis career, will be the only Israeli player in the French Open which begins tomorrow in Paris.

Smashnova gained automatic entry to the main draw of the clay court Grand Slam tournament, her favorite. She won the junior title there in 1991.

Last week, Smashnova won a \$75,000 tournament in Porto, Portugal, also on clay, and then reached the second round at the Madrid Open where she was beaten by Chanda Rubin 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Noam Behr, 288 in the ATP Tour rankings, reached the third and final round of the qualifying in Paris before losing to Cristophe van Garre of Belgium (148) 6-1, 6-1.

Behr's success in the earlier rounds included a win over the top seed in the qualifiers, Argentine Guillermo Kanyas (84). Behr won 6-4, 7-5.

Eyal Ran and Amir Hadad, both lost their first round matches in the qualifying event.

Heather Chait

Russia, seeded 13th, in the first round.

Another local hero, 11th seed Mary Pierce, a losing finalist here in 1994, faces a tricky first round against Belgian Sabine Appelmans.

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Israel
Katzrin
26/6

Tiberias
32/14

Haifa
26/14

Netanya
26/11

Tel Aviv
24/11

Ariel
30/6

Jerusalem
23/9

Beersheba
28/11

Dead Sea
34/17

Eilat
37/17

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

Israel Cities

Today Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

City High Low C/F High Low C/F High Low C/F High Low C/F High Low C/F

Ariel 20/6 9/6/5 29/6 13/5/3 33/6 14/5/3 33/6 13/5/3 33/6 13/5/3

Beersheba 26/6 11/5/3 27/6 16/6/1 32/6 17/6/3 32/6 16/6/1 31/6 16/6/1

Dead Sea 34/3 17/6/2 33/6 22/7/1 38/10 23/7/3 38/10 22/7/1 37/6 21/7/0

Eilat 37/6 25/7/1 37/6 25/7/1 37/6 25/7/1 37/6 25/7/1 37/6 25/7/1

Haifa 26/6 14/5/7 25/6 12/6/4 31/6 20/6/3 31/6 19/6/2 28/6 16/6/2

Jerusalem 23/6 9/4/8 25/6 12/6/3 27/6 14/5/7 27/6 13/5/3 27/6 13/5/3

Katzrin 26/6 9/4/3 27/6 11/5/3 32/6 12/5/3 32/6 11/5/3 31/6 11/5/3

Netanya 25/6 11/5/2 25/6 16/6/1 30/6 17/6/3 30/6 16/6/1 29/6 16/6/1

Tel Aviv 24/6 11/5/2 27/6 15/5/3 28/6 17/6/3 28/6 16/6/1 28/6 16/6/1

Tiberias 32/6 14/5/7 31/6 18/6/4 35/6 20/6/3 35/6 19/6/2 34/6 18/6/2

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY

Oslo 13/6

London 18/12

Berlin 15/9

Warsaw 13/5

Minsk 9/3

Paris 21/9

Vienna 19/9

Rome 23/12

Istanbul 19/6

Madrid 22/10

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

Today Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

City High Low C/F High Low C/F High Low C/F High Low C/F High Low C/F

Amsterdam 14/57 11/52/31 18/64 9/4/39 17/62 8/4/36 17/62 8/4/36

Beijing 24/75 15/59/6 26/79 14/57/3 27/79 14/57/3 27/79 14/57/3

Berlin 15/9 9/4/38 18/64 9/4/39 17/62 8/4/36 17/62 8/4/36

Brussels 17/62 11/52/3 19/66 9/4/38 16/64 8/4/36 16/64 8/4/36

Calcutta 32/89 19/66/6 34/90 18/63/3 35/91 19/66/3 35/91 19/66/3

Chicago 21/70 13/55/9 26/79 14/57/3 27/79 14/57/3 27/79 14/57/3

Fairbanks 11/52 7/44/4 18/64 9/4/39 17/62 8/4/36 17/62 8/4/36

Hong Kong 29/84 24/75/4 29/84 24/75/4 29/84 24/75/4 29/84 24/75/4

Johannesburg 24/75 7/44/4 23/73 3/4/35 23/73 3/4/35 23/73 3/4/35

London 18/64 12/53/8 19/66 9/4/39 17/62 8/4/36 17/62 8/4/36

Los Angeles 25/79 14/57/3 26/79 14/57/3 26/79 14/57/3 26/79 14/57/3

Madrid 22/71 10/50/3 23/73 9/4/38 23/73 9/4/38 23/73 9/4/38

Mexico City 25/79 14/57/3 26/79 14/57/3 26/79 14/57/3 26/79 14/57/3

Monterrey 32/82 19/66/6 34/90 18/63/3 35/91 19/66/3 35/91 19/66/3

New York 26/79 14/57/3 26/79 14/57/3 26/79 14/57/3 26/79 14/57/3

Paris 21/9 9/4/38 21/9 9/4/38 21/9 9/4/38 21/9 9/4/38

Rio de Janeiro 27/79 20/68/3 27/79 20/68/3 27/79 20/68/3 27/79 20/68/3

Rome 23/73 12/53/3 23/73 12/53/3 23/73 12/53/3 23/73 12/53/3

Sydney 18/64 9/4/38 17/62 8/4/36 17/62 8/4/36 17/62 8/4/36

Tokyo 25/77 23/73/8 26/79 14/57/3 26/79 14/57/3 26/79 14/57/3

Toronto 21/70 13/55/9 26/79 14/57/3 27/79 14/57/3 27/79 14/57/3